

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received **SEP 30 1986**  
date entered **FEB 10 1987**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Harrisville Rural District

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Harrisville \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of

state New Hampshire code 33 county Cheshire code 5

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Multiple (see attached listings)

street & number \_\_\_\_\_

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Cheshire County Courthouse - Registry of Deeds

street & number Court Street

city, town Keene state New Hampshire

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys** in addition to Harrisville multiple resource nomination

Determination of Eligibility:  
title Harrisville Rural District has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date August, 1982  federal  state  county \_\_\_\_\_

depository for survey records Department of the Interior

city, town Washington state D.C.

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>2-F moved 1983</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unexposed		<u>5-Aa moved 1850</u>

(see continuation sheets)

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

### Introduction:

The Harrisville Rural District is significant at the national and local levels as 1) a cultural landscape preserving an unbroken historic record of the evolution of upland farms, initial settlement in the mid-18th century to the present, 2) for its direct association and interdependence with the Harrisville mill village (a National Historic Landmark) throughout the 19th century. The Rural District retains tangible reminders of the last century, both of the land and resources -- its topography, the soil, and the forest cover as well as the activities of those who made a living from these resources. It is this physical evidence of the 19th century landscape, little modified and maintained by 20th century farming residents, that allows a visual understanding of the adaptations made by 19th century farmers and the slow process of change. The original farmsteads and their surrounding fields, forests, stone walls, and roads comprise a cultural landscape which was active throughout the late 18th and 19th centuries which has been preserved into the 20th century by secondary forest growth -- the result of a declining agrarian economy in the area -- combined with a modest continuation of farming. The integrity of its component parts and richness of the documented record for Harrisville offers a unique research potential for answering questions relating to the symbiotic relationship between the mill village and upland farms during the 19th century, and of the importance of familial, social, economic and environmental factors in the evolution of both industry and farming in New England. Developing the research potential by preserving the archaeological farmsteads as interpretive sites will further enhance the value of the Rural District for visually communicating 19th century life-styles and the processes of adaptation to cultural and environmental pressures and opportunities.

As a cultural landscape, the Harrisville Rural District is a remarkable example of early town planning, settlement patterns and agricultural development and decline in the New Hampshire highlands.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) (cultural landscape)
<b>Specific dates</b>	1762-1870 1870-1940	<b>Builder/Architect</b>	Various	

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Harrisville Rural District is a well-preserved hill farm community in the Monadnock Highlands of New Hampshire. The district is significant for its cultural, economic, social, political and physical association with the nearby mill village of Harrisville, a National Historic Landmark. In addition, the district is significant for its wealth of documentary, architectural, archaeological and geographical information which details late eighteenth and nineteenth century northern New England frontier settlement and subsequent social and economic development. As a cultural landscape, the Harrisville Rural District visually illustrates the evolution of early community planning, settlement patterns, and 200 years of agricultural practices and adaptations of a Scotch-Irish-English ethnic community. The boundaries delineate the largest area of arable soil in the vicinity which supported the largest number of contiguous farm homesteads associated with the Harrisville mill village. (Other early farms were located singly on small pockets of arable land to the north, and west of the village). The extant structures possess integrity of location, setting, feeling, design, materials, and workmanship; the land maintains a visual, economic, social and political continuity with the agricultural and industrial past. The archaeological resources provide considerable potential for investigation into hill-farm history and culture.

The Rural District was determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places in August, 1982, under criteria A and D. (the determination of eligibility is included as a supplement). Additional research has shown that the district is also eligible under criteria B and C. Under criterion A, the district is a good example of the dispersed settlement patterns of the region, and illustrates the cultural and social adaptations of farming communities in northern New England which supported cottage industries in the eighteenth century and later acted as a support economic base for people and raw materials during nineteenth century industrialization. Under criterion B, properties within the district can be linked directly to individuals and families who provided services or economic support to the industrial village, who served as political figureheads in town and state governments, or who began mill industries in the village. Under criterion C, the

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See overall nomination

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1,510

Quadrangle name Monadnock

Quadrangle scale 1: 62500

### UTM References

A 

1	8	7	4	0	8	0	0	4	7	5	7	7	2	5
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B 

1	8	7	4	0	8	7	5	4	7	5	6	8	5	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

C 

1	8	7	4	0	3	5	0	4	7	5	6	8	0	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

D 

1	8	7	4	0	4	7	5	4	7	5	6	0	0	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

E 

1	8	7	3	6	4	2	5	4	7	5	6	0	0	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

F 

1	8	7	3	6	2	0	0	4	7	5	6	2	7	5
Zone	Easting				Northing									

G 

1	8	7	3	6	3	5	0	4	7	5	6	4	5	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

H 

1	8	7	3	6	0	2	5	4	7	5	6	6	0	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

Verbal boundary description and justification

(Continued)

See Item #7

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state N/A code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lucinda A. Brockway, Preservation Consultant

organization Historic Harrisville, Inc. date August, 1986

street & number P.O. Box 79 telephone (603) 927-3334

city or town Harrisville state New Hampshire 03450

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title date

For NPS use only  
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date 2/18/89

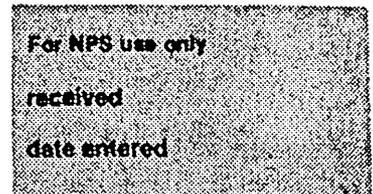
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

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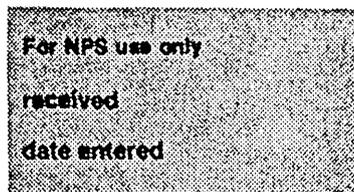
Page

HARRISVILLE RURAL DISTRICT: OWNERS LIST, ALPHABETICAL

PROPERTY OWNER	ADDRESS	SITE #	HISTORIC NAME
ALTON, MR. & MRS. T. P.	425 RIVERSIDE DR., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10025	HRD-02A	SITE OF TOWNSEND FARM
ALTON, MR. & MRS. T. P.	425 RIVERSIDE DR., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10025	HRD-02B	SITE OF ALEXANDER EMES/EBENEZER COBB HOUSE & BARN
BAILEY, MR. & MRS. O.	BOX 293, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-07E	
BEMIS, MRS. C.	RFD CHESHAM, MARLBOROUGH, N.H. 03455	HRD-02UL	
BINGHAM, MRS. E. L.	14 SHERWOOD DR., WESTPORT, CT. 06880	HRD-07UL	
BLAIR, MR. & MRS. D.	BOX 145, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	HRD-03A	AMOS EMERY FARM
BRYANT, MR. & MRS. T.	BOX 234, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-07C	
COLBURN, MRS. J.	BOX 10, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-05A	JONATHAN MORSE FARM
COLONY, MR. & MRS. J. J., JR.	BOX 127, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-11A	SITE OF GERSHOM TWITCHELL HOUSE, BARN/SITE OF SCHOOL #8
COLONY, MR. & MRS. J. J., JR.	BOX 127, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-06A	SITE OF JABEZ PUFFER HOUSE #2
DION, MR. & MRS. L.	BOX 92, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-05B	
DOYLE, MS. M.	BOX 53, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	HRD-03B	JONATHAN ADAMS HOMESTEAD
EMORY, MR. & MRS. L.	BOX 31, PETERBOROUGH, N.H. 03458	HRD-01UL	
FISHER, MR. E.	BOX 33, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-04B	SITE OF JOSEPH TWITCHELL FARM
GREENE, REV. & MRS. T. A.	OLD SLEEPY HOLLOW RD., PLEASANTVILLE, N.Y. 10570	HRD-12B	
GREINER, MR. N.	15 VILLAGE HILL RD., BELMONT, MA 02178	HRD-01UL	
HARRISVILLE, TOWN OF	BOX 34, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-07UL	
HOLLENBECK, MR. & MRS. B.	BOX 174, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-02G	
HOLLENBECK, MR. A.	BOX 211, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-07D	
HOLLENBECK, MR. D.	BOX 171, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-02D	
HOUSE, MR. & MRS. W.	RFD CHESHAM, MARLBOROUGH, N.H. 03455	HRD-09UL	
HOWE, MR. G.	BOX 91, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-13B	
HOWE, MR. G.	BOX 91, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-14B	
HOWE, MR. G.	BOX 91, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-16BUL	
HOYT, MR. & MRS. D.	BOX 60, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	HRD-07UL	
LORD, MR. & MRS. D.	BOX 231, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-07B	
LORD, MR. & MRS. D.	BOX 231, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-07A	SITE OF JOSHUA TWITCHELL HOUSE & BARN
LUOMA, MR. E.	BOX 3, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-02UL	
MAYNARD, MR. & MRS. N.	BOX 6, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	HRD-11B	
McEWAN, MR. E.	BOX 98, W. PETERBOROUGH, N. H. 03468	HRD-02E	

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



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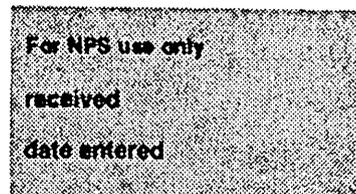
Page

HARRISVILLE RURAL DISTRICT: OWNERS LIST, ALPHABETICAL

PROPERTY OWNER	ADDRESS	SITE #	HISTORIC NAME
McEWAN, MRS. L.	BOX 17, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-02C	AARON MARSHALL FARM
MEATH, DR. & MRS. J.	BOX 257, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	HRD-09UL	REUBEN MORSE FARM
MEATH, DR. & MRS. J. A.	BOX 257, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	HRD-10A	REUBEN MORSE FARM
MEATH, DR. & MRS. J. A.	BOX 257, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	HRD-10B	REUBEN MORSE FARM
MINDERMANN, MR. K/HILL, MS. W.	BOX 147, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-02F	
NITZBURG, MRS. P.	277 WEST END AVE., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10023	HRD-10C	
PAGE, MR. & MRS. J.	BOX 281, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-01A	ABIJAH TWITCHELL FARM
PROPERTIES, INC.	BOX 607, KEENE, N.H. 03431	HRD-11UL	
RATHBURN, MR. & MRS. L.	BOX 76, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-02UL	
RAYNOR, MR. W.	BOX 109, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-09UL	
REGAN, MR. J. ET AL	31-19 84 ST., JACKSON HEIGHTS, N.Y. 11372	HRD-04A	JOSEPH TWITCHELL FARM
SLEITH, MR. R/desROSIERS, MS. M	BOX 196, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-01B	
STONE, MR. C.	BOX 209, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-09A	
THAYER, MR. L. H.	287 MARLBOROUGH ST., BOSTON, MA 02116	HRD-10D	
THAYER, MRS. L. E.	27 ESTABROOK RD., W. NEWTON, MA 02165	HRD-12C	
THAYER, MRS. S. R.	48 CEDAR RD., CHESTNUT HILL, MA 02163	HRD-12A	
WALKER, MRS. M.	BOX 112, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	HRD-13A	BENJAMIN MASON FARM
WALKER, MRS. M.	BOX 112, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	HRD-14A	BENJAMIN MASON FARM
WHEELER, MRS. A. M.	GILSON RD., JAFFREY, N.H. 03452	HRD-07UL	
WHITTALL, MS. L.	20 PARK AVE., GREENWICH, CT. 06830	HRD-12UL	
WILLARD, MRS. G.	BOX 38, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	HRD-13C1	
WOLFE, MR. A. B., TRUSTEE	BOX 97, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	HRD-08	SITE OF JABEZ PUFFER HOUSE
WOLFE, MR. A. B./WOLFE, MS. K., TRUSTEES	BOX 97, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	HRD-07UL	
YOUNG, MRS. J.	c/o MEATH, BOX 257, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	HRD-15A	ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE/JOSIAH STANFORD HOUSE
YOUNG, MRS. J.	c/o MEATH, BOX 257, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	HRD-15B	JOSIAH STANFORD FARM/6. B. LEIGHTON/MONADNOCK FARM #4
YOUNG, MRS. J.	c/o MEATH, BOX 257, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	HRD-16A	

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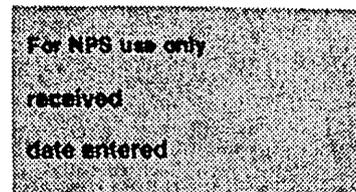
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HARRISVILLE RURAL DISTRICT: OWNERS LIST, BY SITE NUMBER

SITE #	PROPERTY OWNER	ADDRESS	HISTORIC NAME
HRD-01A	PAGE, MR. & MRS. J.	BOX 281, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	ABIJAH TWITCHELL FARM
HRD-01B	SLEITH, MR. R/desROSIERS, MS. M	BOX 196, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	
HRD-01UL	EMORY, MR. & MRS. L. GREINER, MR. N.	BOX 31, PETERBOROUGH, N.H. 03458 15 VILLAGE HILL RD., BELMONT, MA 02178	
HRD-02A	ALTON, MR. & MRS. T. P.	425 RIVERSIDE DR., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10025	SITE OF TOWNSEND FARM
HRD-02B	ALTON, MR. & MRS. T. P.	425 RIVERSIDE DR., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10025	SITE OF ALEXANDER EMES/EBENEZER COBB HOUSE & BARN
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HRD-02F	MINDERMAN, MR. K/HILL, MS. W.	BOX 147, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	
02G	HOLLENBECK, MR. & MRS. B.	BOX 174, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	
HRD-02UL	BEMIS, MRS. C. LUGMA, MR. E. RATHBURN, MR. & MRS. L.	RFD CHESHAM, MARLBOROUGH, N.H. 03455 BOX 3, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450 BOX 76, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	
HRD-03A	BLAIR, MR. & MRS. D.	BOX 145, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	AMOS EMERY FARM
HRD-03B	DOYLE, MS. M.	BOX 53, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	JONATHAN ADAMS HOMESTEAD
HRD-04A	REGAN, MR. J. ET AL	31-19 84 ST., JACKSON HEIGHTS, N.Y. 11372	JOSEPH TWITCHELL FARM
HRD-04B	FISHER, MR. E.	BOX 33, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	SITE OF JOSEPH TWITCHELL FARM
HRD-05A	COLBURN, MRS. J.	BOX 10, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	JONATHAN MORSE FARM
HRD-05B	DION, MR. & MRS. L.	BOX 92, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	
HRD-06A	COLONY, MR. & MRS. J. J., JR.	BOX 127, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	SITE OF JABEZ PUFFER HOUSE #2
HRD-07A	LORD, MR. & MRS. D.	BOX 231, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	SITE OF JOSHUA TWITCHELL HOUSE & BARN
HRD-07B	LORD, MR. & MRS. D.	BOX 231, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	
HRD-07C	BRYANT, MR. & MRS. T.	BOX 234, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	
HRD-07D	HOLLENBECK, MR. A.	BOX 211, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	

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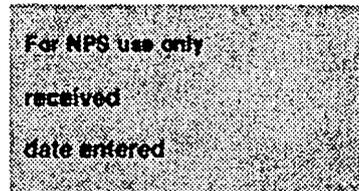
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HARRISVILLE RURAL DISTRICT: OWNERS LIST, BY SITE NUMBER

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HRD-07E	BAILEY, MR. & MRS. O.	BOX 283, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	
HRD-07UL	BINGHAM, MRS. E. L.	14 SHERWOOD DR., WESTPORT, CT. 06880	
	HARRISVILLE, TOWN OF	BOX 34, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	
	HOYT, MR. & MRS. D.	BOX 60, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	
	WHEELER, MRS. A. M.	GILSON RD., JAFFREY, N.H. 03452	
	WOLFE, MR. A. B./WOLFE, MS. K., TRUSTEES	BOX 97, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	
HRD-08	WOLFE, MR. A. B., TRUSTEE	BOX 97, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	SITE OF JABEZ PUFFER HOUSE
HRD-09A	STONE, MR. C.	BOX 209, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	
HRD-09UL	HOUSE, MR. & MRS. W.	RFD CHESHAM, MARLBOROUGH, N.H. 03455	
	MEATH, DR. & MRS. J.	BOX 257, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	REUBEN MORSE FARM
	RAYNOR, MR. W.	BOX 109, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	
10A	MEATH, DR. & MRS. J. A.	BOX 257, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	REUBEN MORSE FARM
HRD-10B	MEATH, DR. & MRS. J. A.	BOX 257, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	REUBEN MORSE FARM
HRD-10C	NITZBURG, MRS. P.	277 WEST END AVE., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10023	
HRD-10D	THAYER, MR. L. H.	287 MARLBOROUGH ST., BOSTON, MA 02116	
HRD-11A	COLONY, MR. & MRS. J. J., JR.	BOX 127, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	SITE OF GERSHOM TWITCHELL HOUSE, BARN/SITE OF SCHOOL #8
HRD-11B	MAYNARD, MR. & MRS. N.	BOX 6, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	
HRD-11UL	PROPERTIES, INC.	BOX 607, KEENE, N.H. 03431	
HRD-12A	THAYER, MRS. S. R.	48 CEDAR RD., CHESTNUT HILL, MA 02163	
HRD-12B	GREENE, REV. & MRS. T. A.	OLD SLEEPY HOLLOW RD., PLEASANTVILLE, N.Y. 10570	
HRD-12C	THAYER, MRS. L. E.	27 ESTABROOK RD., W. NEWTON, MA 02165	
HRD-12UL	WHITTALL, MS. L.	20 PARK AVE., GREENWICH, CT. 06830	
HRD-13A	WALKER, MRS. M.	BOX 112, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	BENJAMIN MASON FARM
HRD-13B	HOWE, MR. G.	BOX 91, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	
HRD-13C1	WILLARD, MRS. G.	BOX 38, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	

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HARRISVILLE RURAL DISTRICT: OWNERS LIST, BY SITE NUMBER

SITE #	PROPERTY OWNER	ADDRESS	HISTORIC NAME
HRD-14A	WALKER, MRS. M.	BOX 112, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	BENJAMIN MASON FARM
HRD-14B	HOWE, MR. G.	BOX 91, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	
HRD-15A	YOUNG, MRS. J.	c/o MEATH, BOX 257, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE/JOSIAH STANFORD HOUSE
HRD-15B	YOUNG, MRS. J.	c/o MEATH, BOX 257, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	JOSIAH STANFORD FARM/G. B. LEIGHTON/MONADNOCK FARM #4
HRD-16A	YOUNG, MRS. J.	c/o MEATH, BOX 257, DUBLIN, N.H. 03444	
HRD-16BUL	HOWE, MR. G.	BOX 91, HARRISVILLE, N.H. 03450	



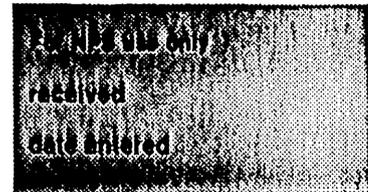
HARRISVILLE RURAL DISTRICT

Individual Properties

IP-6 thru IP-8

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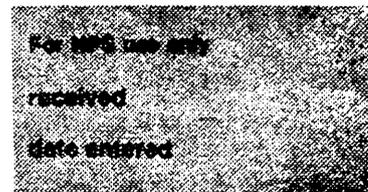
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Individual Properties IP-6 through IP-8

There are 3 contributing buildings, 5 non-contributing buildings,  
and 1 contributing site (archeological) in these properties.

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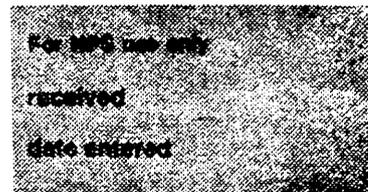


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Buildings & Archaeological Sites  
Harrisville Rural District

<u>Lot &amp; #</u>	<u>Date of Construction</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>HRD Cntrb</u>	<u>HRD Non-Cntrb</u>	<u>Smmer Home</u>
1	1-A	1771-4	Abijah Twitchell Homestead	1 & 2	
	1-Aa	ca 1910	Early 20th Century barn	2	
	1-Ab	1968	Horse & Sheep Barn		X
	1-B	1985	Sleith/desRosier House		X
			* * * *		
2	2-A	ca 1858	C. Townsend Arch. Site	1 & 2	
	2-B	ca 1771	E. Cobb Arch. Site	1	
	2-C	ca 1860	Aaron Marshall Homestead	1 & 2	
	2-Ca	ca 1860	Barn & Shop	1 & 2	
	2-Cb	ca 1860	Section original barn	1 & 2	
	2-Cc	1970	Replicated barn		X
	2-Cd	1970	Shed		X
	2-D	1970	Don Hollenbeck House		X
	2-E	1985	James A. McEwan House		X
	2-F	1860	Leger/Mindemann House (moved 1982)		X
	2-G	1977	Bud Hollenbeck House		X
			* * * *		
3	3-A	1780	Amos Emery Homestead	1 & 2	
	3-Aa	ca 1890	Small barn	2	
	3-Ab	1970	Sheep Shed		X
	3-B	1782	J. Adams Arch. Site	1 & 2	
			* * * *		

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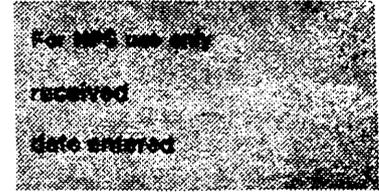
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Page 2--HRD Buildings & Archeological Sites

<u>Lot &amp; #</u>	<u>Date of Construction</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>HRD Cntrb</u>	<u>HRD Non-Cntrb</u>	<u>Smmer Home</u>
4 4-A	1950	John P. Regan House		X	
4-B	1930	Earl Fisher House	2		
4-Ba	ca 1940	Small Barn	2		
		* * * *			
5 5-A	ca 1790	Johnathan Morse Homestead	1 & 2		
5-Aa	ca 1800	Barn (moved ca 1850)	1 & 2		
5-Ab	ca 1825	Barn and Express Office	1 & 2		
5-B	1973	Leo P. Dion House		X	
		* * * *			
6 6-A	1772	J. Puffer #1 Arch. Site	1		
		* * * *			
7 7-A	1774	J. Twitchell Arch. Site	1 & 2		
7-B	1950	David Lord House		X	
7-Ba	1950	Garage		X	
7-C	1985	Timothy Bryant House		X	
7-D	1985	A.J. Hollenbeck House		X	
7-E	1980	Orville Bailey House		X	
		* * * *			
8 8-A	1778	J. Puffer #2 Arch. Site	1		
		* * * *			

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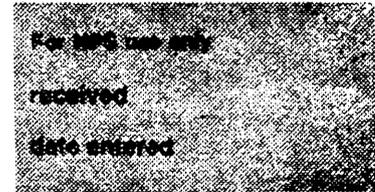
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Page 3—HRD Buildings & Archaeological Sites

<u>Lot &amp; #</u>	<u>Date of Construction</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>HRD Cntrb</u>	<u>HRD Non-cntrb</u>	<u>Smmer Home</u>
9 9-A	1983	Christopher A. Stoney House		X	
		* * * *			
10 10-A	1767	R. Morse Arch. Site	1 & 2		
10-B	1884 & 1916	James & Mary Meath (SkyField)		X	X
10-Ba	1884	Meath Farm House	2		
10-Bb	1884	Meath Farm Barn	2		
10-Bc	1884	Meath Farm Outbuilding	2		
10-Bd	ca 1916	SkyField Barn		X	X
10-Be	ca 1916	SkyField Carriage Shed		X	X
10-Bf	ca 1916	SkyField Ice House		X	X
10-Bg	ca 1916	SkyField Garage		X	X
10-Bh	ca 1916	SkyField Tool Shed		X	X
10-Bi	ca 1916	SkyField Laundry House		x	x
10-C **	1945	Patricia Nitzburg Smmer Cottage		x	
10-E	ca 1920	Harison Thayer Smmer Cottage (remodeled 1959)		x	
10-Ea	1929	Three-car Garage		x	x
		* * * *			
11 11-A	1779	G. Twitchell Arch. Site	1		
11-B	1950	Norman J. Maynard House		X	
		* * * *			

\*\* There are no properties numbered 10-D.

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Page 4—HRD Buildings & Archaeological Sites

<u>Lot &amp; #</u>	<u>Date of Construction</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>HRD Cntrb</u>	<u>HRD Non-Cntrb</u>	<u>Smmer Home</u>
12 12-A	1900	Sherman Thayer House (Smmer Home)		X	X
12-B	1900	Thayer Green House (Smmer Home)		X	X
12-Ba	ca 1900	Green Carriage House (Smmer Home)		X	X
12-C	1980	L. E. Thayer House (Smmer Home)		X	X
12-Ca	ca 1900	Thayer Carriage House (Smmer Home)		X	X
		* * * *			
13 13-A	ca 1762	Benjamin Mason Homestead	1 & 2		
13-Aa	ca 1780	English Hay & Stock Barn	1 & 2		
13-Ab	ca 1800	Barn (shoe manufacturing)	1 & 2		
13-Ac	ca 1920	Garage	2		
13-Ad	1975	Horse barn		X	
13-B	1935	The George Howe House	2		
13-Ba	1935	Garage	2		
13-C	1932	Ralph E. Willard House	2		
13-Ca	ca 1932	Garage	2		
13-Cb	ca 1920	Willard Barn	2		
13-D	ca 1890	Leighton Dairy Arch. Site (unevaluated)		X	
		* * * *			
14 14-A	ca 1840	Mason Brickyard Arch. Site	1		
		* * * *			
15 15-A	1773	Josiah Stanford Arch. Site (unevaluated)		X	
15-B	1935	The Jane Young House	2		
15-Ba	1935	Garage	2		
		* * * *			

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Harrisville, originally part of Dublin until 1870, was surveyed in 1750. Laid out in the form of a parallelogram seven miles east-west and five miles north-south, the area was divided into ten ranges running east to west and numbered from south to north. Each range was divided into twenty-two lots numbered east to west; a total of 220 lots in all, of more than 100 acres each. Sixteen of these lots comprise the Harrisville Rural District. Those who came to live in the Rural District bought an entire lot, and then under the deed, were required to build a house, clear the land and help with other municipal tasks such as helping to care for the poor. The lots original stone walls and an occasional "marking tree", stand today as a 215-year-old form of town planning, the predecessor to later practices for laying out counties, townships and individual lots in the mid-west and west.

The primary period of significance (1762-1870), and the secondary period (1870-1940), are based upon the history of upland farms in the Monadnock highlands and the relationship of those in the Rural District to the Harrisville mills. 1762 marks the date of the construction of the district's first homestead by Thaddeus Mason. The terminus of 1940 is derived from the construction dates of the last commercial agriculture structures in the district in the 1930's. After World War II, small residential structures were erected in the district. This break with the agricultural traditions of the district forms the logical terminal date for significance.

The land-use patterns of the Rural District closely mimicked those of subsistence upland farm areas throughout northern New England. During the period of initial settlement (1762-1820), the Rural District was comprised of scattered small farmsteads -- each with small pastures for oxen, horse and cattle, modest fields for barley, rye, wheat, oats and various hays, stands of maple sugar trees, and great acreages of woods which were often harvested for cord wood used for such purposes as heating the Harrisville mills or for the manufacture of various wood products in several small mills along Goose Brook. Near the end of this period approximately 15% of the area was cleared land.

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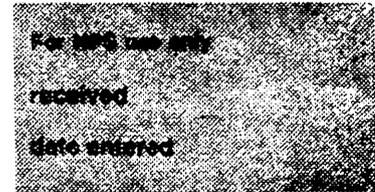
From 1820 to 1870, subsistence farms were replaced by commercial farms interdependent with the growing industrial village. The mills were a ready market for wool during the Merino sheep 'craze' which peaked in 1836 when Harrisville's farms grazed over 6,000 sheep. Civil War demands for woolen uniforms and blankets kept the sheep flocks at high levels until 1870 when a post-war glut drove long lines of sheep across New Hampshire to the slaughter-houses of Brighton, Massachusetts.

In addition to wool, the district's farms produced cordwood for heating Harrisville's mills, lumber for construction and as raw materials for the wooden manufacturing mills in the village which produced wooden boxes, shoe pegs and clothes pins. Beef and mutton were important products of the Rural District. In the early 19th century, census records and bills of sale indicate the Mason, Twitchell, and Townsend farms kept herds of as many as 20 cattle for sale to the Harrisville boarding houses. Maple sugar was a major product for home consumption and for sale to sweeten chewing tobacco. In 1864, the Keene Sentinel reported that Dublin (of which Harrisville was a part), produced 55,000 pounds of sugar, valued at 15 cents a pound, or \$8,250. Large old maples still line the roadways of the district and overhang the front yards of the Twitchell, Mason and Emery homesteads. Ever-increasing deforestation left, by the time of the Civil War in the early 1860's, less than 15% of the once great stands of pines and hardwoods, the peak of open agricultural land in the district.

Following the Civil War and the setting of high U.S. tariffs which cost the Rural District farmers their wool markets, the emphasis in farming began to change. The woolen mills began to slow in production, there was less demand for raising sheep, and the demand for other agricultural products in the village lessened. 1870 to 1900 was a period of transition for farms in the Rural District. According to the Harrisville Town Census of 1880, about 40% of the town's population lived outside the mill village; there were 58 farms in the town, and farmers and farm laborers made up 23% of the town's work force. The number of sheep in Harrisville declined from 612 in 1874 to 210 in 1900. The number of cows went from 405 in 1874 to 224 in 1886 and remained at this level until the end of the century. Butter, milk and cheese were sold in Harrisville and, via the new

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railroad, to Keene and beyond. In one year (1883) 2,742 cans of cream, worth nearly \$4,000, were sent by railroad to a milk company in Wilton (northeast of the district). A considerable amount of tree harvesting to supply raw material to woodenware mills and fuel to home and mill owners encouraged reforestation. In 1885, the Cheshire Mills paid out nearly \$2,400 on wood accounts to a "score of local people".

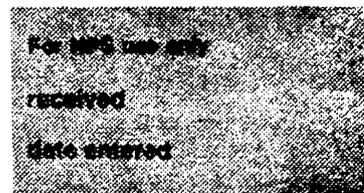
Late in the 19th century, a "new cash crop" developed in the Rural District -- the seasonal residents/visitors. Summer residents in Harrisville came first as boarders to the farmsteads, staying for a week, month or summer with the farm family. Later they began to purchase farms for conversion to second homes.

By 1900, the Rural District can be characterized as having completed the transition from commercial farms interdependent with the Harrisville mills to a pattern of smaller farms tied to more distant markets, or supporting the seasonal summer populations, or harvesting for its own use. This pattern has continued to the present and has resulted in approximately 13% remaining cleared land, which is close to the ratio of cleared land to forest cover near the end of the initial period of settlement.

Between 1900 and 1940 every type of livestock listed on Harrisville Town Census records declined by at least 75%. Of the 210 sheep in the town in 1900, none remained in 1940. In 100 years the town's sheep population went from approximately 6,000 to none. Cows and the dairy industry did not show as marked a decline, but nevertheless shrunk by 75% from 1900 to 1940. By 1941 there was no herd containing as many as 10 cows, the minimum number estimated necessary to show a profit in dairying. As dairying declined, poultry raising did not take its place as it did in other portions of New England. Instead, the trend was for more intensive farming. In 1910 New Hampshire farmers tilled approximately 25% of the lands they owned, with the poorer lands reverting to forest. Yields on good farmlands rose. As the poorer lands reverted to secondary forest, selective harvesting of timber and commercial tree farms replaced the sheep and dairy operations.

The Depression drove many in Harrisville back to subsistence farming, increasing Harrisville's rural population from 127 in

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1930 to 173 in 1940. Based on oral recollections, a typical Rural District farm in this period had enough cows to sell some milk and cheese in Harrisville. Logging continued for building materials, cordwood, or hardwood lumber. Maple syrup was in demand. Some farms raised and trucked vegetables to individual homes in Harrisville, Peterborough, and Keene. Many farmers worked part time on the roads, did hand work for the summer homes, drove school buses, or did carpentry or house painting.

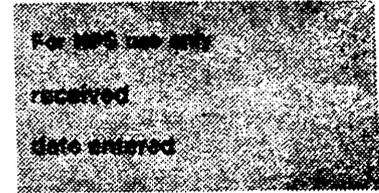
From initial settlement to 1940, land use patterns remained substantially unchanged in the District. The Willards on the Mason homestead, the Hazens on the Emery homestead, and the Townsends on the Twitchell homestead, remained essentially subsistence farmers until at least the 1920's. Where land was bought by summer visitors, it too, was farmed. George Stewart, during the early days of the Depression, provided work for idle Harrisville mill workers by asking them to clear the fields behind Skyfield of any remaining rocks and stones.

After 1940 farming efforts reverted to part-time operations or 'gentlemen farms'. After World War II, the first small residential homes were built in the district. Today, hay and small amounts of meat, wool and produce are grown in the district, primarily for home consumption or for use on farms in nearby Marlborough.

The Harrisville Rural District lies within the Monadnock Highlands of southwestern New Hampshire. The Highlands consist of granitic and glacial deposited hills ranging from 1,000 to 2,000 feet above sea level. The Highlands are bounded on the west by the Connecticut River, on the east by the Merrimack River, on the south by Mt. Monadnock (elev. 3,165 feet), and on the north by the White Mountains. Today the entire region is almost completely forested.

The Harrisville Rural District consists of 1,510 acres, mostly at elevations above 1400 feet in the southern section of Harrisville, New Hampshire. Through it runs the ridge of land that divides the Connecticut and Merrimack River watersheds. To the east, the drainage system consists of Goose Brook (Nubanusit Brook), a tributary to the Contoocook River. To the west, small streams drain into the Minnewawa Brook which in turn feeds the north branch of the Ashuelot River, and subsequently the Connecticut River.

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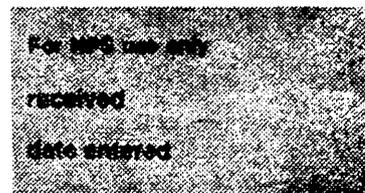
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The district is traversed by four paved roads, eight dirt roads, and several abandoned farm roads. New Harrisville Road, Willard Hill Road, Old Harrisville Road, Bonds Corner Road and Eastview Road link the village of Harrisville with Dublin, Bonds Corner and Eastview. Venable Road, #4 Hill Road, McVeagh Road, Nelson Road and Grimes Hill Road function as internal networks within the district. Townsend Road, Appleton Road and abandoned roads in lots 2 and 15 are accessible by four wheel drive vehicles and foot traffic. These roads had served as extensions of the internal road network within the district in the nineteenth century. A few of the larger land holdings such as the Meath and Young properties (lots 10 and 15) include roads which function as internal networks within the property, connecting outbuildings with the main residence(s). Between 1877 and 1906, New Harrisville Road was altered to create a more direct link between Harrisville village and Dublin Center. Prior to 1877, New Harrisville Road ran from Harrisville Village along the road now known as Nelson Road (Lot 4). By 1906, the new Dublin-Harrisville road was in place, and the earlier route was abandoned. Only 1/4 mile of this new route lies within the Harrisville Rural District. All other roads within the district have been in place since the mid-nineteenth century. No other new roads have been added to the district since New Harrisville Road was changed (see 1858, 1877 and 1906 maps).

An early power transmission right-of-way crosses the district, but it does not create a significant visual impact. The corridor and line on steel towers relate directly to rural life in the Rural district and are contributing elements to the secondary period of significance. In 1915, the Keene Electric Company acquired the corridor and erected a power line connecting a new substation in Harrisville with the power-generating station at Minnewawa Dam in Marlborough, as the first rural electrification effort in the Harrisville area. The original line was an 1100 KV line set on wooden poles, but this was upgraded to a 3300 KV line on steel towers following the 1938 hurricane.

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At a special town meeting in the summer of 1914, Harrisville decided to have electric lights installed in the village. (A few buildings, including the Cheshire Mills and the Winn Brothers chair factory, had been generating their own electricity for a number of years.) The right of way was cleared and the lines and lights installed the next year. The residents were, at first, more diffident about having electricity in their homes. Before the lines were strung, the power company took a house-to-house poll and found that many people did not want electricity. This attitude, revealing as it was of the town's attitude towards progress, gradually changed.

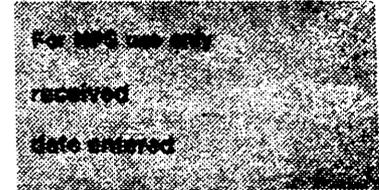
In 1926, for the first time, the power requirements of a new mill forced the Colony's to purchase electricity. Goose Brook continued to furnish two thirds of the company's power until 1947, when the company began to purchase electricity for all its power needs.

The district consists of nine original proprietors lots and seven partial lots, the majority of which can be easily defined by the extant stone walls. Within the bounds of the district, and contributing to the primary period of significance, sit five contributing extant original farmhouses and their associated outbuildings (1-A, 1-Aa, 1-Ab, 2-C, 2-Ca, 2-Cb, 2-Cc, 2-Cd, 3-A, 3-Aa, 3-Ab, 5-A, 5-Aa, 5-Ab, 13-A, 13-Aa, 13-Ab, 13-Ac, 13-Ad), eight contributing historic archaeological sites where other farmhouses once stood, and one historic industrial archaeological site. The distribution of the five surviving farmhouses is irregular, with two quite isolated from the rest. When grouped with the eight archaeological sites, the fourteen farms are quite evenly distributed.

The five extant farmhouses and four archaeological sites which contribute to the primary period of significance, contribute also to the secondary period of significance. Also contributing to the secondary period are five extant farmsteads (4-B, 4-Ba, 13-B, 13-Ba, 13-C, 13-Ca, 15-B, 15-Ba, and 10-Ba, 10-Bb, 10-Bc). Four of the five homes are 20th century in their detail and scale of the farmstead but they reflect the earlier architectural traditions of the district in overall styling. Four homes and their associated outbuildings and two cottages (10-Bd-10Bi, 10-C, 10-E, 10-Ea, 12-A, 12-B, 12-Ba, 12-C, 12-Ca) are significant examples of leisure and vacation homes built throughout the Monadnock Highlands during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These properties have been grouped into a separate Summer Home Historic District nomination which overlaps the Rural District. This summer home district is, in reality, a

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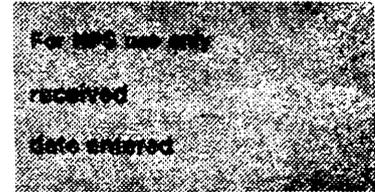
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continuation of the Lake District of Dublin, already listed on the National Register. The summer home properties in Lot #12 and the Sky Field complex in Lot #10 do not contribute architecturally to the agrarian themes of the Rural District. The lands which these buildings occupy possesses the same history, integrity, and physical appearance as the rest of the Rural District, however. In addition, the farm complex and archaeological site on the Sky Field estate are a direct product of the agricultural traditions of the district. Because of the overlap of architecturally-significant summer residences on agriculturally-significant lands, the Harrisville Rural District and the Beech Hill Summer Home District overlap. Fourteen single-family houses built since 1950 are non-contributing to the Rural District, as are two cottages dating to early in this century on land formerly a part of Skyfield.

The boundaries of the district are defined by political boundaries, land use history, and the 1400 foot contour elevation. Boundaries for the district are based on the original lot lines as surveyed in ranges and lots, laid out before 1755. Deviation from these property lines occurs when the integrity of the historic agricultural nature of the district is violated. The Dublin/Harrisville town line of 1870 forms the southerly boundary of the district. The northerly boundary of the area lies along the 1400 coutour elevation. Here, north of the elevation, land became too steep and rocky for agricultural purposes. The northeast boundary of the district extends north of the 1400 foot contour because land in this section is not as steep and contains the same soil type found on the hilltop areas. Historic use and present features in this area contribute significantly to the internal integrity of the district. The western boundary of the district follows the 1400 foot contour, the #4 Hill Road, and a portion of McVeagh Road. Though visually confusing, this boundary was selected for three reasons: soil composition and topography (being the end of the Beech Hill Ridge agricultural area); historical association of this portion of lot #16 with Lot #15 since the late 18th century; and historic land use. Land west of this boundary is steeply pitched (see topographical map), and of different soil content than the land within the Harrisville

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Rural District. In soil composition and topography it is identical to lands north of the 1400 foot contour. Historically these lands were too steep for agricultural purposes and were used exclusively for pasture or woodlot. This small corner of Lot #16 has been linked with the ownership and agricultural uses of Lot #15 since their settlement in 1773. The lands excluded from the district do not retain the same integrity of land use history as rural hilltop agricultural lands.

Integrity:

The soil of the Harrisville Rural District consists of the largest expanse of Marlow loam soils within the towns of Dublin, Harrisville, and Nelson (see map). This soil is the most desirable type in districts used primarily for cultivation. Surface soil and subsoil layers are well drained and aerated. Historic maps indicate early settlements on each of these pockets of Marlow loam soils wherever they are found in these three towns. The large expanse of Marlow loam in the rural district underscores the importance of this area as an agricultural center for the Dublin/Harrisville/Nelson area in the nineteenth century. Though no longer supporting the extent of agricultural activity it once did, the potential is still present for its continued use, and the research potential of its past use is preserved under the existing forest cover.

Today approximately 200 acres within the Harrisville Rural District are cultivated fields or pasture. Lot lines and settlement patterns remain visible on the remaining acres under secondary forest growth. There are five remaining eighteenth century farms in the district: two still produce agricultural income (one to a substantial extent); two are farmed without income; one is a residence. Four other properties produce substantial agricultural income. Their cultivated fields and pasture lands have been in continuous operation since their settlement in the eighteenth century. Combined, the contributing historic archaeological sites and contributing extant architectural structures are evidence of early farming

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architecture in the region, while the spatial arrangements within each lot show integrity of a dispersed settlement pattern and typical patterns of agrarian land use for northern and western New England.

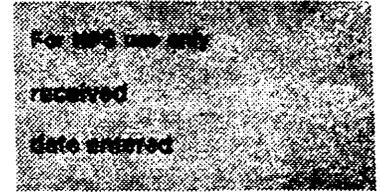
Integrity is a quality that applies to feeling, as well as to location, design, setting, and association, and the one question repeatedly asked about the Rural District is whether its appearance and ambiance evokes the aesthetic or historic sense of the past. The question has been phrased generally in terms of the current forest cover as not being representative of the peak of agricultural production during the "sheep craze" of 1830-1850, which is true. But it is representative of the period of initial settlement, and the five extant 18th century homesteads still stand surrounded by small fields, with woods once again dominating their background. For the Rural District, the forest was both a natural element to be cleared for agriculture and a resource to be farmed, and the ratio of cultivated lands to woodland changed in relation to farmers' responses to social and economic pressures and opportunities.

Throughout the century upland farms were interdependent on the Harrisville mills -- as the mills grew, peaked and declined -- the ratio of cleared land to woodland changed. While the Rural District preserves a once dynamic landscape, it does not preserve a particular point in time.

The expanse of secondary forest growth which currently exists in the district consists of stands of beech, birch, maple, ash, and some oak and pine. The stone walls which once bordered the property lines and fields of eighteenth and nineteenth century farms in the district still exist intact under the secondary forest. These remains of settlement and land use patterns are not obscured, but are instead preserved, by the tree cover just as architectural features are preserved in low-income urban areas. When money is not available for home improvement, architectural features are left unaltered except for perhaps gradual decay. The cultural landscape of New England was 'fossilized' in the late nineteenth century when large scale agricultural machinery and irrigation systems proved unsuited to the smaller New England farm fields with their fixed stone wall boundaries and the lure of industrialized urban areas

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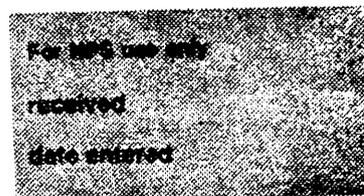
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drew individuals away from the farm. Abandoned fields and farmsteads were left to natural reforestation until the housing pressures of the post World War II era have led to the reclaiming of these farmsteads and their reuse as single family house lots. This change in use has led to the destruction of historic cultural agrarian landscape patterns - patterns which have recently drawn tourists to the region to view quaint farmscapes or the colorful foliage of secondary growth woodlands.

As a result of its isolation, the district has not undergone a significant change in land use as has occurred in other regions of New Hampshire. To date, this area has not been significantly impacted by the extensive subdivision and housing development which is sweeping southern New Hampshire. Likewise, the rural district has not seen the extensive commercial lumbering activity or outdoor recreational business which has affected northern New Hampshire. The only attempt at commercial lumbering in the district occurred in the late 1920's when a group known as the Dublin Associates began intentional reforestation and selective timber harvesting of cultivated land along lower Old Harrisville Road. The business venture was short-lived due to a weak timber market in the area. Today some of the properties support carefully controlled tree farming, but not on a large commercial scale.

Those open fields which remain within the district support the same agricultural activities and field use patterns present throughout the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The majority of open space is used for pasture of sheep, horses and some cows. Cultivated lands produce hay, alfalfa, and corn. Most fields are defined by stone walls; some pasture areas are surrounded by 3-4 feet high electric fencing. Sugar maples which line the roads and stone wall field boundaries are tapped each spring for maple syrup, used primarily for home consumption. Maple syrup was one of several cash crops produced in the district throughout the nineteenth century.

The five farmhouses and their outbuildings (HRD 1A, 2C, 3A, 5A, and 13A) contributing to the primary period of significance, are closely related architecturally. All of them show the typical vernacular progression from simple 1-1/2 story farmhouse to extended and expanded farm complex. The original structures are readily distinguishable.

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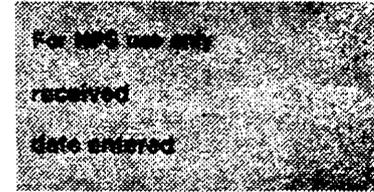
Four of the five farmhouses are 1-1/2 story hewn post and beam frame structures, sheathed and clapboarded, and usually have center chimneys. They have rectangular gable-roofs, simple detailing and a minimum of decorative elements. Nineteenth century extensions and twentieth century changes in fenestration have not harmed their character. Likewise, the agglomeration of outbuildings has not harmed but has indeed reinforced the rural character of the farms. Large, early nineteenth century barns and later garages and sheds show changing agricultural requirements over time. The fifth house is an 1860 Greek Revival sidehall plan dwelling with connected outbuildings.

The 1884 farm complex at Sky Field illustrates the only late 19th century shingle-style farm building type in the district. The four small farmsteads (HRD 4B, 13B, 13C, and 15B) contributing to the secondary period of significance, exhibit a uniformity in style which complements the architecture of the earlier period. In all cases, the main house is a 1-1/2 story cape derived from 18th century prototypes. But they are products of their time, not replicas, and vary in their detailing and expression of earlier and contemporary vernacular styles. All are part-time farms whose owners continue to farm the land, not as subsistence farmers, but as tillers of vegetable lots, drovers of the family horse, sheep, goats and/or cow, and tree farmers.

Eight of the contributing historic archaeological sites located within the district are the remains of homesteads established during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. All of the sites have been investigated by the Archaeological Research Service of the University of New Hampshire and Boston University Office of Public Archaeology. The sites are distinguished by cellarholes, building foundations, wells and stone fences. They are situated near town roads, several of which have been abandoned during the last century.

Visible foundation and structural remains at all of the sites suggest functional and temporal aspects of site development. None of these sites has completely interconnected structural remains, but five demonstrate some phase of additional construction to the house or barn, or both. The additions to the houses generally appear as linear appendages offset from the axis of the main structure foundation. This results in site plans that appear to consist of a haphazard agglomeration of foundations. This pattern also occurs in extant farms of the Rural District.

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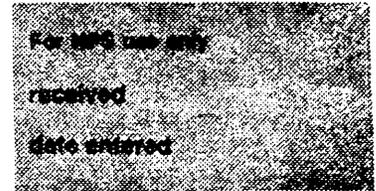
The Mason brickyard (14-A) represents the only industrial archaeology site in the District. This site is important to the District as it represents the entrepreneurial elements which characterized early farmers, an aspect associated with rural communities as they become influenced by their relationship to the village mills.

Test excavations at all of the sites but HRD 3B, 11A, and 15A have demonstrated the undisturbed nature of the archaeological deposits. Only one site, HRD 10A, appears to have been cultivated, but the disturbance was shallow and there has been little impact to the structural remains or deposits. One other site, HRD 7A has been more seriously disturbed with the house site apparently destroyed through new home construction. The outbuildings and barn foundations at this site remain in good condition. The remainder of the sites are all situated in more remote locations and have been undisturbed except for encroaching woods.

The historic road patterns remain in use throughout the district, though some east-west roads are no longer accessible to vehicles. New Harrisville Road, Old Harrisville Road, Willard Road and Bonds Corner Road are the main thoroughfares between Dublin, Harrisville, and Bonds Corner. Development of newer structures along these roadways has occurred in only two places within the district: the Summer Home District on Old Harrisville Road, and a cluster of five newer residences at the intersection of Venable Road and New Harrisville Road.

Further development is limited at present by the large percentage of multi-acre land holdings by a few individuals who perceive the landscape as integral to their lifestyle. 85% of the land in the Rural District is held by 15 individual owners, and 80% is held in 20 lots. This pattern has been a continuous tradition since the area's first settlement when 16 individuals acquired lots of 100-150 acres each. Seven of the current owners farm, of which five have family roots in the Rural District extending a century or more and two of whom are 1930 homesteaders. Four other owners farm part-time.

The properties within the rural district, therefore, exhibit integrity within the bounds of each property and as a cohesive area unit. Patterns of land use and settlement remain under secondary forest growth, or are continued on open cultivated and pasture lands. The integrity of archaeological and architectural elements are intact.

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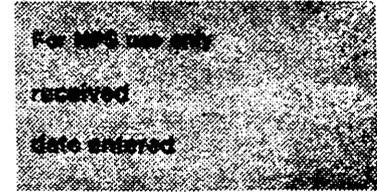
Property Descriptions:

The Harrisville Rural District contains nine original proprietors lots and seven proprietors lots which are divided almost in half by the 1400 foot contour elevation. The land south of this elevation falls within the district and contains the same Marlow loam soils and topography as the nine complete lots. The land north of the 1400 foot elevation becomes very steep (15-25% slope) and the soils are too rocky for cultivation, but may have been suitable for limited pasturage. Three lots have been subdivided into several smaller lots and show a heavy concentration of non-conforming architectural structures. The remaining lots retain the scattered settlement pattern which has existed since the late eighteenth century.

All of the properties listed as contributing to the period of 1762-1870 are considered significant at the national level, based upon an evaluation of the Rural District by Kenyon and Pinello (1983) and the value of the Rural District for illustrating and explaining major developmental patterns of the industrial revolution in New England. Pinello's study used an anthropological model, an approach that permits holistic study of complex human and environmental variables, but which is not intended to be site specific. Each documentary source was reviewed for five study variables (genealogy, ethnicity, farm marketing and productions, agricultural technology, and public roads and buildings), and information was gathered on responses to four levels of adaptive pressures (international/national, regional, local and household). The principal conclusions of the study relating to significance are: 1) each contributing property illustrates some aspect of historic adaptive patterns; 2) the study variables, contributing properties, and levels of adaptive pressure are not mutually exclusive; and 3) the overall pattern exhibited by the contributing properties unify the Harrisville Rural District and make it unique.

Five properties in the district contribute to the secondary period of significance (HRD 4-B, 13-B, 13-C, 15-B, and 10-Ba-c). All but 10-Ba-c were constructed during the 1930's, a decade when agriculture in the district renaissance due to a difficult economy. All four of these residences include house, barn and a

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few acres of open fields; they were designed for modest, subsistence, farming efforts. HRD 10-B represents the largest effort to combine the agricultural traditions of the district with the leisure summer residence. Here, the earlier farm fields of the Reuben Morse homestead support hayfields, woodlots, and a large complex of late 19th century buildings constructed as a summer residence and caretakers farm. Alterations made to earlier farmsteads during this period include the addition of porches, new windows, larger barns to accomodate dairying operations, the adaptation of horse barns or sheds for machine shops, garages, or, in one instance, an express office. The summer homes along Old Harrisville Road, and the addition of a large, two story wing on the Benjamin Mason homestead, reflect the influence of the summer visitor to the region.

Of all the changes in farming activity and building activity during this period, the most extensive and speculative venture was that of the Leighton family on Lots #15 and 16, and on the Adams farmsted west of the Rural District. George Leighton bought the Stanford homestead in 1890, and the Adams homestead in 1881 to establish two specialized dairy operations known as Monadnock Farms #4 and #5. Leighton's large number of barns and outbuildings constructed on these properties during this period are no longer standing, but their foundations are evident. These farms were sold to Lawrence Rathbun when they became economically unfeasible. Rathbun turned them into successful tree farms, the first in the District. Residences built after World War II along Venable Road and Eastview Road do not reflect the agricultural traditions of the District.

**LOT NUMBER 1, Granted 1771, Contributing**

This lot is currently divided into four portions owned by the Alton, Grenier, Sleith/desRosier, and Page families. The Nubanusit Brook crosses the upper third of the property, bordered on the south bank by Eastview Road, a paved road running from Bonds Corner Road to the village of Eastview. The original farmhouse, built by Abijah Twitchell, is still standing and its surrounding thirteen acres are still farmed by the Page family. The remaining acreage is woodland and contains no other

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architectural features with the exception of one non-contributing property. Stone walls delineate the original lot and range lines and previously cultivated fields and pasture. The entire lot has not been disturbed by twentieth century changes with the following exceptions: the surfacing of Eastview Road, the subdivision of the property on paper, the Sleith/desRosier home, and the smaller scale of farming activity.

Abijah Twitchell purchased this lot in 1771. His estate inventory of 1778 includes 10 sheep, cards, 2 spinning wheels and other evidence of a cottage textile industry. From 1824-1854 Calvin Twitchell owned and occupied the site; records indicate limited farming activity. The next owner, Winslow Royce (1854-1904), farmed extensively on the site. Census records in 1870 list 13 sheep and 75 pounds of wool produced on this farm; by 1880 Royce had doubled the size of his flock, and records indicate sale of his products to the Cheshire Mills. Royce's widow owned the land after 1904.

1-A. The Abijah Twitchell Homestead, 1771-4, contributing:

Today this farm produces agricultural products strictly for the family's use. The main house is a 1-1/2 story clapboarded cape built prior to 1774 and situated facing Lampmann Road. The house has four rooms with a central chimney on a fieldstone foundation. Windows are 6/6, irregularly spaced. Windows on the front facade have been altered to almost picture window size; each window is split in half vertically with three lights on each side. The asphalt-shingled, low pitched roof has not been altered. The front door is centrally placed, six paneled, surrounded by four small side lights and no transom. The house was expanded early in the nineteenth century with a 1-story ell to the rear which connected a small outbuilding to the main house. This single-story outbuilding is situated parallel to the main house and has 6/6 windows irregularly spaced. An original or very early addition to the kitchen ell connects the house and outbuilding in the middle, forming an 'H' plan. Both the outbuilding and the ell connector are sitting on fieldstone foundations. The peaked roofs are asphalt shingled without dormers. An early 20th century rectangular barn (1-Aa) with

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shingled siding and asbestos shingled roof sits 25 yards north of the house. The barn has been connected on the east and west sides with a series of low, one story sheds, now collapsing. East of the older barn, sits a 1968 one-story horse barn (1-Ab) with vertical board siding, asphalt shingled roof, and large sliding main door. The house and outbuildings are situated in the middle of open, cultivated fields and horse pastures. Lampmann Road and all cultivated fields are lined with stone walls. A dirt driveway leads from the road to the work yard between house and barns. A few large sugar maples shade the grass areas near the house, and line Lampmann Road and the driveway.

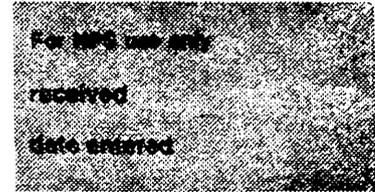
1-B. Sleith/desRosier House, 1985, non-contributing:

This home is a small, 1-1/2 story two room dwelling situated gable end to the street (Lampmann Road). A dirt driveway leads to the east side of the house and is not readily visible from the street because of the expanse of surrounding woods. The house is sided with natural shingles, with an asphalt shingled roof, cement foundation and 1/1 windows. There is a small garage (1-Ba) attached to the house.

LOT NUMBER 2, Granted 1771, Contributing:

Today, this lot is subdivided into eight smaller properties, owned by the Alton, Rathburn, D. Hollenbeck, B. Hollenbeck, Luoma, J. McEwan, L. McEwan, and Hill families. Bonds Corner Road traverses the eastern half of the lot; Eastview Road branches off at the northeastern corner of the lot. Townsend Road, an abandoned access road, intersects another abandoned road close to the middle of the lot. Townsend Road once connected the Cobb and Marshall farmsteads with the Morse farmstead. The second, unnamed, abandoned road connected the Marshall farmstead on Bond's Corner Road with the Cobb farmstead and eventually led to the eastern shores of North Pond (Lake Skatutakee). Both of these abandoned roads are readily apparant and still walkable.

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The original Lot 8, Range 9 has been subdivided and resold several times. Because of these subdivisions, several stone walls criss-cross the original lot. Most the original lot is currently wooded although some open fields remain near residential structures.

Today the lot contains four non-contributing structures, two contributing historic archaeological sites, and one contributing residence with associated outbuildings. The two archaeological sites have been field surveyed. The area surrounding the original Marshall homestead has not been test excavated, but has been visited by field archaeologists.

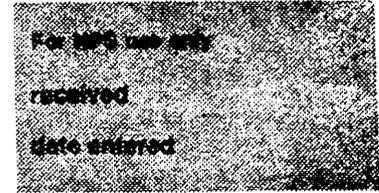
Aaron Marshall acquired ownership of this lot in October, 1777. By 1790 the lot was subdivided several ways, with Alexander Emes acquiring a piece of land in 1791 which contained the Ebenezer Cobb homestead. Emes was married to Aaron Marshall's daughter; together they owned their portion of the lot until 1845 when his son-in-law, Charles E. Townsend inherited the property. Emes is known to have been involved with the saw mill operation at the outlet of North Pond. His 1845 inventory included 47 sheep, a loom, weaving apparatus, and three outstanding notes to Harris Mills. Here is further evidence of the relationship between the Rural District and the woolen mills.

The Aaron and Benjamin Marshall families and relative, Luke Richardson, farmed the remaining portions of the property from 1777 until ca. 1830. Aaron Marshall's will and inventory list linen, spinning wheels, and seven sheep as part of his possessions, indicating possible involvement with the cottage textile industry. The property and adjoining lot (Lot 9 Range 9) were owned by Ruel Brigham from 1834 to 1858. The 1850 census shows Brigham produced wool, butter, potatoes and meat. In 1854 Brigham sold beef, mutton, veal, lamb and pork to the Cheshire Mills.

The Brigham property was bought in 1858 by the Townsend family, owners of other property in the district. Charles Townsend's brother and sister-in-law owned the Marshall farmstead in 1865, at which time the Charles Townsend home was built north of the Aaron Marshall farmstead. Several transactions between Charles E. Townsend and his brother and sister-in-law, David and Maria H. Townsend, indicate shared use

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of the property. David and Maria occupied the Marshall homestead until their deaths in 1895 and 1902 respectively. Throughout the David Townsend ownership, the Marshall farm produced corn, potatoes, wool, butter, maple sugar and meat in quantities greater than for home consumption. Cheshire Mill records indicate payments to the Townsends for food throughout the 1850's and 60's. The Charles Townsend farm is an average size farm for the rural district in the nineteenth century, producing close to 70 pounds of wool in 1860 and 1870 (according to census records).

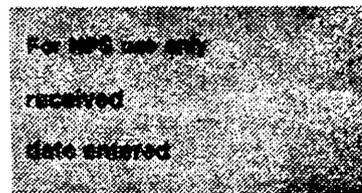
The history of this property lot is significant as an example of farming activities by different families within the original lot. It also illustrates the evolution of subdivision and changing use brought on by financial constraints, familial relationships and political and economic influences within the area. Despite all these changes, a constant relationship between this farm and the community around it has been sustained.

2-A. Charles E. Townsend Homestead, ca. 1858, contributing historic archaeological site (NH42-39):

This site survived well into the twentieth century as a residence and farm. Visible remains include an extensive granite foundation with entry steps, two add-ons, one collapsed well and a large barn foundation. The barn's foundation was originally built with large fieldstones, but a more recent concrete addition was added on the south side of the building. The house burned in 1961, and the barn had collapsed prior to that date. The site had functioned as a large dairy farm in the twentieth century. Recent field testing has found intact remains of the same period as the buildings.

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2-B. Ebenezer Cobb Homestead, ca. 1771, contributing historic archaeological site (NH42-34):

This site consists of a cellarhole, well and associated stone walls. The foundation stones indicate an ell-shaped cellar with a center chimney, partially surrounded by a second outside foundation along the north and east sides, probably a later addition. Cultural materials recovered from three shovel test pits and surface finds include: ceramic sherds from the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, bricks, bottles, nails, slate and window glass. The cellar wall stones, other foundation walls and associated field walls are mostly intact. Ebenezer Cobb lived at this site from 1771 to 1791 when it was sold to Alexander Emes.

2-C. The Aaron Marshall Homestead, 1771, contributing structure and potential historic archaeological site:

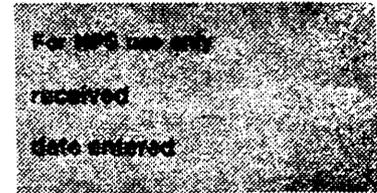
This property still produces limited agricultural income. Currently, the site is a small horse farm. An ca.1860 1-1/2 story painted clapboard cottage sits with its gable end to the street, close to the road. Windows are 2/1, irregularly placed. The sidehall entrance is situated in the gable end of the dwelling. The house sits on a fieldstone foundation which may have been the foundation for the earlier Aaron Marshall homestead. The roof is currently asphalt shingled. A small, one story kitchen ell is attached to the back gable end of the house. A rectangular clapboarded barn and shop (2-Ca) ca.1860, and a vertical wooden sided rectangular barn (2-Cb) c.1970, and an open shed (2-Cc) c. 1970, are attached to the kitchen ell. Another small shed (2-Cd) wasa built in 1970. The surrounding four acres have been kept open, revealing intact stone fences along the street and adjoining woodlands.

2-D. The Don Hollenbeck House, 1970, non-contributing:

The 1-1/2 story ranch is clad with vertical board siding. Windows are irregularly spaced and not consistent in size. The asphalt shingled roof is pierced on both sides by one dormer. The house sits on a cement foundation. The main entrance is off center. This house is not visible from the road.

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2-E. The J. A. McEwan House, 1985, non-contributing:

This house is a 1-1/2 story clapboarded cape. The centrally located main door is a four panel type. The roof is asphalt shingled. Windows are regularly spaced along the front facade. A small ell is attached to the east gable end, connecting the house with a garage. The house is well screened from the road by trees.

2-F. The Leger/Mindemann/Hill House, 1860/ moved 1983, non-contributing:

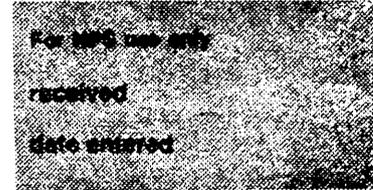
This ca. 1860 1-1/2 story clapboarded cape was moved from Jaffrey, New Hampshire in July, 1983. The house is situated gable-end to the street. The off center entrance is located in this gable end. All windows are 2/2. The cornice returns are supported by corner pilasters. A small one room kitchen ell is attached to the rear of the building with one side entrance to the north.

2-G. The Bud Hollenbeck House, 1977, non-contributing:

This is a 1977 1-story clapboarded ranch whose roof was rebuilt after a fire in 1983. It is not visible from the road.

LOT NUMBER 3:, ca. 1780, contributing:

Grimes Hill Road borders the eastern boundary of this lot, following the old lot lines. This dirt road connects Bonds Corner Road with the town of Dublin. No other roads cross the original lot. The original range and lot lines as well as the Emery/Adams property division lines are indicated by extant stone walls. Several other stone walls exist surrounding cultivated and pasture lands no longer in use. Only four acres are currently used as pasture. The remaining 100 acres remain woodlands. This lot was divided in half shortly after its initial settlement. By 1782 both Amos Emery and Jonathan Adams had built homes on their half of the lot. The Amos Emery home is still standing. The Jonathan Adams home has recently been abandoned and has collapsed on its foundation.

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Amos Emery lived and worked on the northern half of this lot from 1780 until the house was sold to David Appleton of Dublin in the nineteenth century. David Appleton was related to Aaron Appleton who purchased other properties in the district. The Hazen family bought the property in 1862 and it remained in their family until the early twentieth century. The census statistics indicate the farm produced maple sugar, butter, cheese and potatoes instead of the sheep which so many district farmers raised. For this reason the property provides interesting data on farms producing market produce during the 'sheep mania' craze. This farm is one of the oldest farms in continuous operation in the Harrisville Rural District, from 1780 to the present. The current owners raise a small flock of sheep and fruits and vegetables. Edson Henry Hazen owned this property in the early 20th century. He and the Willards on the Mason farmstead were two of the last operators of small upland subsistence farms in the Harrisville Rural District.

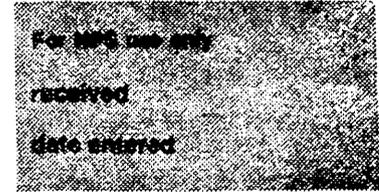
Jonathan Adams owned the southern half of the lot from 1782 - 1808. A series of non-resident owners had the site through most of the nineteenth century. Census data are not available about the type of farming activity which occurred here.

3-A. The Amos Emery Homestead, 1780, contributing :

This farm, which still produces limited agricultural income, has been worked since 1780. Today, 4 acres are under cultivation, with the remaining 46 acres used as woodlands. The house is a 1-1/2 story clapboarded cape with center chimney and off-center entrance. Windows are 6/6, covered with storms and screens. The door is paneled wood, with four side lights on each side of the door surround. The original house has four rooms with central chimney, combining medieval "half-house" and Georgian plan elements. Extended off the south gable end is a one story, one room kitchen ell. Exterior treatment of the kitchen ell is identical to the main house; all windows in the ell are 6/6. A rectangular one car barn/garage, clapboarded, with a small ell to the rear, is attached to the south side of the kitchen ell. All roofs are asphalt shingle. All buildings sit on a rough fieldstone foundation. A small, late 19th century rectangular barn (3-Aa) sits close to the road just

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north of the main house complex. Another, three sided shed (3-Ab), currently housing seven sheep, sits in a field south of the main house. Electrical fences enclose and the original field stone walls enclose all open fields.

3-B. The Jonathan Adams Homestead, 1782, contributing historic archaeological site:

This 1782, 1-1/2 story cape has recently collapsed. Its center chimney and off-center entrance is similar to the Amos Emery residence. This house did not show the typical vernacular ell extensions typical of the other extant farm houses in the district. At one time outbuildings did exist, but were built free-standing instead of as extensions to the house. This site has not been field investigated by the archaeology team as it was standing at the time of the archaeological investigations.

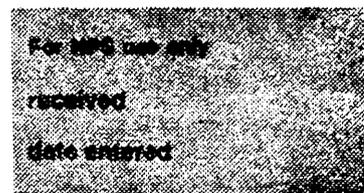
LOT NUMBER 4:, 1790, contributing:

This property is currently owned by the Regan and Fisher families who have built homes along Nelson Road. The entire lot remains as woodland, with little or no open yards around the two homes. Stone walls indicate the old range and lot line boundaries. Nelson Road, an unpaved dirt road, diagonally bisects the original lot. This road ends at the Fisher residence and the historic continuation of the road is visible and accessible on foot. The 1915 power line diagonally crosses the southern half of the lot.

The earliest deed transaction on record for this lot cites Matthew Thornton of Merrimack selling the lot to David Eliot in 1790. Eliot did not live on this lot; his homestead was on Lot 10, Range 8. In 1808 Eliot's widow sold the lot to Joshua Twitchell. Joseph Twitchell purchased the lot in 1814 and was the first to actually live on the lot. He occupied the site until his death in 1853. Augustine Wood bought the lot in 1854 and sold it to his brother in 1866. George Wood lived here until his death in 1893, after which George Gowing became the non-resident owner.

Census records show Joseph Twitchell owned 11 sheep and produced 30 pounds of wool in 1850. George Wood is known to have been supplying the Cheshire Mills with wood, beef, and potatoes in the 1860's. The New Hampshire Historical Society owns a 'Daybook' of George Wood from Harrisville which includes a section entitled "For Farm Work, Harrisville, NH 1871-1879".

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George Wood was a Selectman and Overseer of the Poor in Dublin in 1870 and became a Selectman in Harrisville when it became a separate town. His business transactions with the mills represent a documented case of interdependence between the mills and a local farmer. No archaeological remains were found for the Twitchell-Wood residence, but it is believed that the Fisher house is built on the foundation of the earlier residence.

4-A. The John P. Regan House, 1950, non-contributing:

This 1-story clapboarded building with detached garage covered with horizontal tongue-and-groove siding (c. 1950) is almost invisible from the road.

4-B. The Earl and Evelyn Fisher House, 1930, contributing:

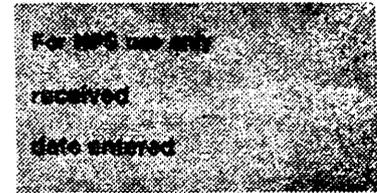
This is a 1-1/2 story shingled cape with central chimney which includes a camp style extension on one end and a garage on the other. There are 6/6 windows in the main cape, and 2/2 windows in the wing, both of which represent vernacular preferences for styles that had been popular earlier in the century; and because it is shingled and has a camp style wing, it also reflects the tradition of the summer home. A small c. 1940 gambrel-roofed shingled barn (4-Ba) sits separate from the house, but is visually linked as a complex by its shingled exterior. It was converted to residential use in 1983. The use of the gambrel form in early twentieth century barns was in response to the promotion of this improved configuration by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It became fairly common in northern New England during this period. The house and barn were constructed as part of a modest part-time farm operation. The property includes roughly three acres of land cultivated for hay crops.

LOT NUMBER 5:, ca. 1790, contributing:

Approximately one third of the original lot 10, Range 9 is included within the Rural District. The remaining two thirds sit on a steep slope of rocky land which falls north of the 1400 foot contour elevation. That portion included within the Rural District contains an extant farmhouse built prior to 1790 and one non-contributing residence built in 1973. New Harrisville Road, Venable Road and Townsend Road all intersect within this lot. The majority of the lot is currently wooded, with stone walls in place marking the roads, boundary lines and field lines.

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This property was farmed continuously for one hundred years by various owners. The lot was owned by several non-resident owners during the nineteenth century including the Cheshire Mills in 1858. Due to repeated sales of the property, census records were identified only for 1860 and 1870, when the property was owned by Joshua Pillsbury. During his tenure he produced maple sugar, butter and meat on the farmstead.

5-A. The Jonathan Morse Homestead, ca. 1790, contributing:

Today this site consists of 13 acres, none of which are under cultivation. The extant 1-1/2 story clapboarded cape house was built prior to 1790 and was altered in the late nineteenth century with a kitchen ell to the rear and second story dormers. The house is a 5 bay, central entry plan with 6/6 windows and four sidelights on each side of the wooden door. The small, one story kitchen ell extends to the rear on the south side of the house. A small portico covers the side entrance door in the ell. Two outbuildings, an 18th century, hand-hewn post and beam clapboarded barn (5-Aa) and a small ca. 1825 rectangular, clapboarded shed (once used as an express office) (5-Ab) are situated close to the house. All roofs are surfaced with asbestos or asphalt shingles; all buildings sit on rough fieldstone foundations. A short dirt driveway leads from the street into the work yard area between house and barns. Today the property is used as a residence and is no longer a working farm.

5-B. The Leo P. Dion House, 1973, non-contributing:

This is a small 1-story clapboarded ranch with 1/1 windows and centrally located door. The house has a simple low-pitched gable roof and cement foundation.

LOT NUMBER 6:, 1772, contributing:

Today this lot is owned entirely by the Colony family who owned the Cheshire Mills. The original Puffer homestead exists in the form of archaeological remains in the center of the lot. It lies at the end of an abandoned road which once connected farmsteads in lots 6 and 8 with Appleton Road. Stone walls remain extant throughout the lot. The 1915 power line traverses the northern edge of the lot, and New Harrisville Road crosses the entire eastern edge of the property. Secondary forest covers the entire property.

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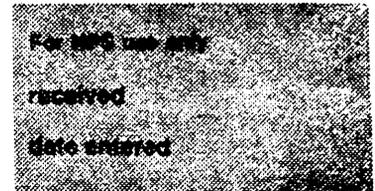
The earliest recorded transaction involving this piece of land describes Ezra Twitchell selling the entire lot to Jabez Puffer of Framingham, Massachusetts on September 15, 1772. Puffer retained ownership of this piece of land until 1778 when he moved west to Lot 11, Range 8. Throughout the nineteenth century the property had a series of owners, including the Cheshire Mills in 1858. Most owners did not live on the lot; instead they used it for investment or as an extension of nearby farming activities.

David Eliot, who occupied the site from 1778 until his death in 1793 operated a cottage textile industry on the site. His inventory included 17 sheep, a flax brake, and a variety of spinning and weaving equipment. His son, John Eliot, was a partner of Aaron Appleton of Dublin and Keene; together they were engaged in a number of commercial activities. John became president of the Cheshire Bank in Keene in the nineteenth century. This family is an example of those who left rural Harrisville to become very successful businessmen in the region. Excavation of this site will yield information about farm operations as well as pre-industrial home industries in the area.

6-A. Jabez Puffer Homestead #1, 1772, contributing historic archaeological site(NH42-35):

This site lies adjacent to an old town road at the top of a westward facing slope. It includes a chimney fall and a stone foundation around a cellar. Recent logging activities have resulted in burial of a portion of the site under brush trimmings. This logging has not damaged the structural remains in any way however, as it has only served to cover them. Test excavations demonstrated the presence of artifact materials throughout the area in undisturbed contexts. One section of a stone wall has been removed as a result of the recent logging activities.

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LOT NUMBER 7:, 1774, contributing:

Approximately half of the original lot 11, range 9 is located within the bounds of the rural district. Four non-conforming residential structures and one contributing historic archaeological site are the only features within this proprietors lot which fall within the district. Today the lot is primarily wooded, with approximately two acres surrounding the Lord house and Twitchell archaeological site which is left open as field.

This lot was owned and farmed by Joshua Twitchell in the late eighteenth century, and farmed continuously into the twentieth century. Occupants of the house included Joshua Twitchell and his son Moses Twitchell, whose inventories indicate sizeable involvement in the cottage textile industry. Augustus LaPointe and his wife Delima, both factory workers at the Cheshire Mills, were residents of the house in 1870. By 1880 the site was occupied by subsistence farmers, some of whom sold cordwood to the Cheshire Mills.

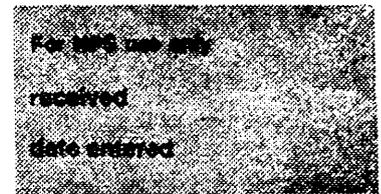
7-A. The Joshua Twitchell Homestead, 1774, contributing historic archaeological site(NH42-37):

Visible remains on this site include two mortared barn foundation walls, covered well and several intact field stone walls. Initial inspections indicate that the extant house may be sitting on an earlier house foundation. A portion of the yard area of this site is maintained as a yard of the David Lord residence and an outyard currently surrounds the barn foundation. One barn foundation is currently overgrown by weeds and brambles but its configuration is clearly visible when some clearing is done. A stone wall forms the east and a portion of the north boundary of this site. Foundations of the barn consist of mortared and dry laid stone which form a structure 12 x 12 meters. Interior walls are suggested through footings as are doorways in the interior and exterior walls. A nineteenth century bottle and family refuse dump is located several yards to the rear of the Lord House..

7-B. The Lord House, 1950, non-contributing:

This is a 1950 1-1/2 story, board and batten sided house with gable roof. The house is situated in the middle of a one acre yard, close to Venable Road. A detached garage (7-Ba) sits just west of the residence.

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7-C. The Timothy and Fabiola Bryant House, 1985,  
non-contributing

This modern modified salt box style home is screened very well from the street. Exterior finish consists of stained clapboards and asphalt shingled roof. One brick chimney is located at the west end of the building. A long dirt driveway leads off the road through the woods to the side garage door.

7-D. The A.J. Hollenbeck House, 1985, non-contributing:

This 1-1/2 story cape is sited in a way which follows the contour of the land, stepping slightly to the east. The house is sided with stained clapboards, and the roof is sheathed with asphalt. The house is barely visible from the road due to its siting and the presence of trees.

7-E. The Bailey House, 1980, non-contributing:

This small, one story clapboarded ranch has a central stock door with one window. 1/1 windows are located sparsely throughout the rest of the house. The asphalt shingle roof is low pitched. The foundation is cement. A dirt driveway leads from the road to areas surrounding the house. A great deal of tree clearing near the residence makes this building very visible from Venable Road.

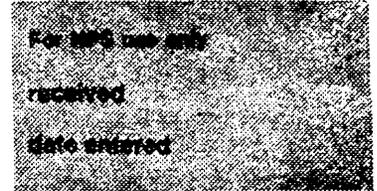
LOT NUMBER 8:, 1778, contributing:

Similar to Lot Number 6, this entire lot has remained under one ownership since its settlement. Today the entire lot is wooded, with one archaeological feature, the Jabez Puffer Homestead #2, located in the center of the lot. The 1915 power line traverses the northern edge of the lot. Appleton Road, an abandoned farm road, crosses the western border, and an abandoned access road from Appleton Road connected this farmstead site with that of the Jabez Puffer Homestead #1. Stone walls indicate the original boundary markings.

Jabez Puffer occupied this lot from 1778 (after moving from Lot 10, Range 8) to 1784. His occupancy was followed by a series of non-resident owners in the 19th century, including E.A. Milliken, agent for the Cheshire Mills. The site is significant to the district for its research potential to provide information on farm families in the lower economic sector of the community.

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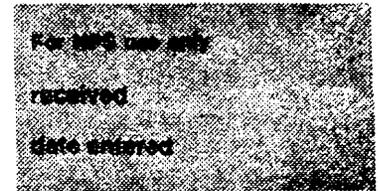
8-A. The Jabez Puffer Homestead #2, 1778, contributing historic archaeological site (NH42-36):

This site consists of a series of four depressions: a well, cellar, animal pen with two openings, and a shallow depression with several stones along its edges. The site is located at the bottom of a valley with two old roads passing nearby. The area is now overgrown by a mixed coniferous-deciduous forest with heavy underbrush. The well is situated on the opposite side of one of the roads from the house and the animal pen. Further to the west of the well is a level platform which projects into a low swampy area. This platform produced many artifacts when tested and could be the remains of another structure or merely a dumping location. Artifacts recovered from the site include large amounts of local redware rather than the finer wares from outside the region, and are suggestive of the 1805-1830 period.

LOT NUMBER 9:, 1773, contributing:

This area is owned currently by four families, one of which has a small house not contributing to the integrity of the rural district. A portion of the land is owned by the Meath family who also own the majority of land in Lot Number 10. Stone walls still designate the boundaries of the original lot. Venable Road, the only road associated with this lot, runs along the southerly boundary along the old Range lines. The entire lot is currently woodland.

Samuel Johnson acquired this entire lot from Joseph Blanchard, one of the original Dublin proprietors, prior to 1773. Johnson sold the property to Gershom Twitchell, Sr. in November of 1773. In turn, Gershom Twitchell, Jr. bought the land from his father in 1777, and began subdivision of the parcel in 1782 when the easterly half was sold to Timothy Adams. Twitchell sold the remaining half to Joseph Adams in 1783. Aaron Appleton became a non-resident owner of the western lot sometime prior to 1818. David Townsend II and his wife Esther acquired the western portion of the lot prior to 1841, and their son Jonathan owned the lot from 1841-1853. The original house had disappeared by 1853. Other non-resident owners acquired the

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property after Jonathan Townsend. There was no census data, probate records or mill records which indicated the exact use of this property during the nineteenth century. The property does however have strong familial links to other lots in the rural district. A granddaughter of Gershom Twitchell went to work for Abner Sanger whose diary records business dealings within the rural district. Jonathan Townsend and his brother David married two Fisher sisters, whose familial lines are linked to the Morse family on lot number 5. One of the Townsend's sons, Charles Elmer Townsend, married Emeline Emes and lived at the Marshall farm on lot number 2.

9-A. The Christopher A. Stoney House, 1983, non-contributing:

This is 1-1/2 story rectangular house with a simple gabled roof. Exterior siding consists of vertical, horizontal and diagonal unstained wooden boards. Windows are a combination of styles. The house sited on a small lot and well screened from the road by trees.

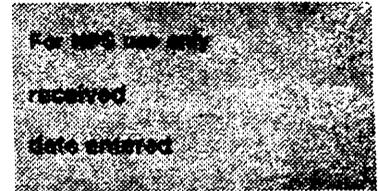
## LOT NUMBER 10:, 1767, contributing:

A majority of the land within this lot is currently owned by the Meath family. Old Harrisville Road crosses the southwestern corner of this lot, bordered by two homes and associated outbuildings which are part of the Beech Hill Summer Home District. This lot also contains the contributing historic archaeological remains of the original owner's homestead (Reuben Morse), and two non-contributing structures built in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Approximately 30 acres remain as open field, the rest wooded and operated as a small scale tree farm. A small pond is located within the open fields to the rear of the Meath home complex.

Reuben Morse purchased this lot before 1767 and occupied the farmhouse until his death in 1810. His estate inventory includes 49 sheep, flax, and flax seed, indicating a possible connection to the new mills. The next site owner, Bela Morse owned portions of several lots in the area, raising flax and sheep on this site. Alvah Kendall, owner of the site from 1855 to 1871, raised sheep and sold the wool to Cheshire Mills between 1860 and 1870. After 1884, Zophar Willard, owner of the woodenware factory in Harrisville, rented this farmhouse to summer residents. The Morse house burned in 1915, and the Georgian Revival home, Sky Field was constructed the following year.

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10-A. The Reuben Morse Homestead, 1767, contributing historic archaeological site (NH42-38):

This area is now in a hayfield of orchard grass, clover and other volunteer grasses and herbaceous plant growth. Some artifact materials are visible on the ground surface due to animal burrowing. The majority of the foundations and artifacts are situated from 10 to 50 cm below ground level based on recent test excavations. These structural remains extend at least 12 meters by 6 meters and suggest that the original structure was expanded over time. A well, composed of dry laid stone and now covered by a large granite slab, is located at the northeastern corner of the foundations. Items recovered through test excavations span the period from the late 18th through the early 20th centuries.

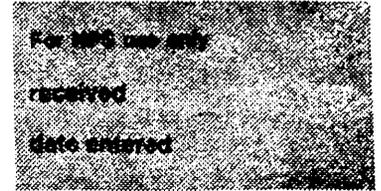
10-B. Sky Field, 1884 and 1916, 10-Ba to 10-Bc contributing, 10-Bd to 10-Bi non-contributing, (Summer Home District):

The 1916 three-story brick Georgian Revival house designed by Lois L. Howe, architect, is detailed in a nomination as part of the Beech Hill Summer Home District. The main residence is situated to the west of a converted barn, now residence, and five outbuildings. Some distance from the main house complex, on Venable Road, sit a 2-story farmhouse (10-Ba), barn (10-Bb), and outbuilding (10-Bc) built in 1884 as the caretakers home and operating farm for Sky Field; it is known by the name "Meath Farm". The farmhouse is a vernacular expression of the popular shingle style. The house, shingled barn and stable, and the carriage sheds were built in an effort, popular then, to make the Sky Field summer residence as self-sufficient as possible. The farm provided forage, pasture and shelter to the horses, and dairy products, vegetables, and other commodities to the residents of the summer house. The field pattern dates to 1884 or before. A road links the two complexes across one cleared and one wooded field, entering the main complex at the cluster of outbuildings. This group consists of a barn, carriage shed, ice house, garage, tool shed and laundry house. (10-Bd - 10-Bi). The cultivated field between the complexes is still used today for harvesting a cash crop of hay.

10-C. The Patricia Nitzburg Cottage, 1945, non-contributing:

This is a 1945 1-1/2 story clapboarded cape with dormers and a lateral extension. The house was built by Lucius Thayer as a summer house for members of his family, and is located next to the Thayer carriage shed/barn.

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10- E. The Harrison Thayer House, 1959, non-contributing:

This is a 1-story rectangular gabled roof cottage clad with tongue and groove siding with a detached shingled two-car garage (1929) not visible from the road. Access to this property is by way of the series of driveways at the Sky Field complex.

LOT NUMBER 11:, 1777, contributing:

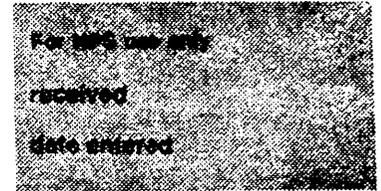
Two thirds of the original property lies within the Rural District. Currently this lot is owned by three families. The power line crosses the most southern section of this lot. Venable Road borders the property to the south, following the old range lines. Site features in this lot include the contributing historic archaeological remains of the Gershom Twitchell homestead, and one non-contributing structure. The majority of the area is wooded, with stone walls bordering the lot and range lines.

On October 27, 1777, a committee from the town of Dublin, comprised of Eli Morser, Moses Adams and Samuel Twitchell leased the land for 999 years to Stephen Twitchell. This piece had originally been designated a minister's lot. In 1779 Stephen sold the lot to his brother Gershom Twitchell Jr. Throughout the nineteenth century the title chain becomes very complicated. The original house and barn complex are mentioned in all deed transactions until 1837. Schoolhouse No. 8 stood near the house complex until 1841. Gershom Twitchell Jr. was a shoemaker and operated a store from the house during the late eighteenth century. Census data was not available to indicate use of this lot because no house was situated on the site between 1850-1880.

11-A. The Gershom Twitchell Homestead, 1779, contributing historic archaeological site (NH42-23):

This site represents one of the earliest abandoned farms in the district. The site consists of three depressions, two of which are less than one meter deep and the other which is about 1.5 meter deep, surrounded by piled stone walls. The westernmost

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depressions are offset but connected by a short wall segment suggesting the remains of a hall or passageway between the two. The third depression is larger and deeper and has a well, composed of dry laid stones north of its eastern end. The entire area is overgrown by dense brush and small deciduous forest species, most of which are ten or less inches in diameter.

11-B. The Maynard House, 1950, non-contributing:

This is a small c. 1950 one-story clapboarded cape with a small front extension (1969) and a detached garage.

LOT NUMBER 12:, 1762, contributing:

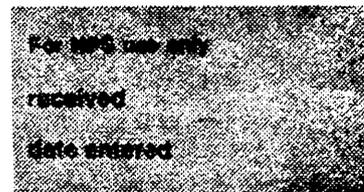
The majority of this lot comprises the Beech Hill Summer Home District properties, with the remaining acreage owned by the Whittall family and containing no structure. The majority of the lot is wooded, with cleared areas existing in close proximity to each of the summer home cottages. Old Harrisville Road diagonally traverses the lot. Stone walls and evidence of old tree lines still exist. The entire lot was once owned and farmed by the Mason family who lived on nearby lot number 13. Though architecturally not contributing to the agrarian themes of the Rural District, the Summer Home Residences on this lot are surrounded by hayfields and woodlots. They possess little or no formal, designed landscaping. For this reason, the land retains its visual and historical link with the agricultural traditions represented in all properties of the Rural District. The duality of these properties, therefore, makes them eligible for both the Rural District and the Beech Hill Summer Home District.

12-A. The Sherman Thayer House, 1900, non-contributing (Summer Home District):

This is a rectangular, two story shingled building with gambrel roof and a series of dormers; built in 1900.

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12-B. The Thayer Greene House, 1900, non-contributing (Summer Home District):

This is a 2-1/2 story shingled frame dwelling built on a long, narrow plan with south and west porches, sited to take advantage of the view of Mt. Monadnock. It was built in 1900 in association with the Sherman Thayer House for members of the Thayer-Goldthwait-Rand family. The stable and carriage barn (12-Ba) is located across Old Harrisville Road.

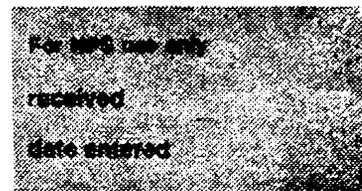
12-C. The L.E. Thayer House, 1980 (rebuilt), non-contributing (Summer Home District):

This is a 2 story shingled dwelling built c. 1980 to replace a former summer home destroyed by fire. Across the road is the ca. 1900 3-horse stall and single bay carriage barn (12-Ca), now the summer residence (on the second floor) of Patricia Nitzburg.

LOT NUMBER 13:, 1762, contributing:

Approximately half of the original lot 14 Range 9 falls within the boundaries of the Rural District. Currently the property is subdivided into three lots. The integrity of the original lot is visible because the stone walls follow the original north-south lines and Venable Road - laid out on the Range line -- marks the southern border. The northern border has a stone wall as well.

The lot contains two non-contributing structures and one contributing farmstead of the original property owners. Venable Road forms the southerly boundary of the lot, following the old range lines. The 1915 power line crosses the southern portion of the lot. The majority of the acreage is open cultivated fields and pasture. Tree lines are retained along the historic stone walls, and some wooded portions exist in northern and eastern portions of the lot.

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This property and all of lot number 12 were owned by the Mason family for more than 100 years. The property seems to have been always farmed, although the Masons were not always resident owners. Benjamin Mason purchased the lot from Joseph Twitchell in 1763. Bela Mason, his youngest of nine children, occupied the site from 1790 to 1810, when the property passed to his nephew, Samuel Mason. Thaddeus Mason, third child of Benjamin Mason, purchased land in HRD 12. Levi Emery married Elvira Mason and farmed the site from 1833 to 1875. The Emerys had no children and the farm passed out of the Mason family to Solon Willard in 1875. Solon Willard lived on the lot until his death in 1908. His decendents lived on the property until the mid-twentieth century when it was sold to the Walker family.

No other homestead in the Harrisville Rural District exemplifies the historical significance of the district better than the Mason Homestead. From it's settlement in the late 18th century as a small, one-and-one-half cape house with a tall, 45' x 30' English barn in the back, the farm changed with the times. The house was moved once, and then extended, and extended again by a series of sheds until they reached the great barn. The successive generations of Masons and Willards lived substantive lives here from 1763 until after World War II. They worked the fields, harvested timber, and had a long, continuous relationship with Harrisville village. They raised beef for boarding houses, made wool for the factory, and had a brick yard which scanty records show provided bricks at least for a Harrisville blacksmith, if not for the mill buildings. In one extant shed, wooden lasts for leather shoes still stand - a rare surviving local example of the outwork system of shoe manufacturing which was very important in mid-19th century New Hampshire. Where other farms in the district declined after 1870, this farm survived. In the 1880's, the little cape was expanded with the addition of a two story wing to the west to undoubtedly facilitate summer boarders. Today, the Walker family raises corn for a son-in-law's dairy farm in nearby Marlborough. They graze his heifers on the pastures, hay the fields of orchard grass and timothy, and harvest hardwoods from the wood lots.

Levi Emery had close social and business connections with the Harris family and with Harris Mills. The Agricultural Censuses for 1850, 1860, and 1870 show Levi Emery was producing

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large quantities of wool (90 pounds in 1850 and 1860, 140 pounds in 1870). Undoubtedly he was selling wool to the Harris Mills. Solon Willard was selling cordwood to the Cheshire Mills during his occupancy of this site. Zophar Willard was an important Harrisville businessman and farmer in the nineteenth century. He owned lot 12, range 8 and many other properties in Harrisville. Zophar lived in the village and took over the Mason and Perry saw mill. Decendents of the Willard family still own and occupy a portion of the original lot.

13-A. The Benjamin Mason Homestead, ca. 1762, contributing:

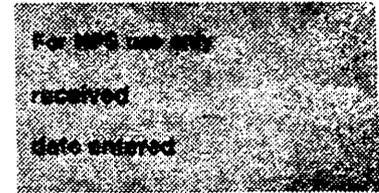
This 198 acre complex is now used as a residence by Mrs. Robert Walker. Her son-in-law operates a dairy farm in nearby Marlborough, and uses the Walker fields for corn crops, hay and pasture. Hardwood timber is harvested regularly from several woodlots. This homestead is the most complex of the five remaining early farmsteads with standing structures in the District. The house was built in 1762 - a 1 1/2 story, five-bay cape that was moved before 1812 easterly "down hill", closer to Venable Road. The house was placed into the side of a hill and given an additional story so it had an at-grade entrance at both levels (reputedly to avoid taxes on a two-story structure). The foundation was constructed of brick. The kitchen ell was added by 1840, and was extended (by an element now gone) to incorporate a privy and laundry. In the late 19th century a porch was added to the kitchen ell, and a two-story wing (removed in 1945) was added to the west side of the main house.

The oak-framed barn (13-Aa) to the rear of the ell is one of very few extant 18th century barns in New England. It may have been built as early as 1790 as a classic English barn. Once the traditional 30' x 45', it is now 15' wider due to a 19th century extension along the northern side, converting it to a more typical Yankee barn. The great hay doors are on the long, rather than the gabled-roof sides of the barn, with hay mows above the stalls for stock on either side. It's southern door has a single row of glass panes above its lintel.

East of the barn is a small rectangular shed/shop (13-Ab) which was used to make leather shoes, with lasts and other equipment still in place.

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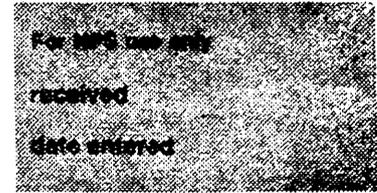
During the 1920's an auto garage/shop (13-Ac) was built across Venable Road. In 1975, a new horse barn was added (13-Ad). In 1946 the 1870's west wing was removed from the house, followed by changes in fenestration and siding. Despite these changes, adequate architectural evidence and physical material remain on the exterior and interior of the complex, to allow its development, and progressive elaboration to be easily detected. All roofs are gabled, asphalt shingled. All siding is painted clapboards; the foundation is stone. Surrounding the farmstead are huge maples and a few apple trees. The main house sits slightly back from the road, behind a stone retaining wall which incorporates cut granite stones with rough fieldstones. The house sits in the middle of extensive cleared fields and stone walls.

13-B. The George Howe House, ca. 1935, contributing:

This is a 1-1/2 story white clapboarded cape with central chimney, three bay plan and centrally located wooden door. Two pilasters flank the door and classically inspired mouldings decorate the top of the door surround. The gabled roof is pierced by three gabled dormers. The detached garage (13-Ba) is located northeast of the house with its gable end to the street. The house sits amid approximately 15 acres of cleared fields (cultivated for corn and hay), huge maple trees, and stone

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walls. An abandoned road follows the western property line north of Venable Road. The road is distinguishable by its stone walls on each side and the line of maples along both stone walls. The road is accessible to pedestrians and four wheel drive vehicles.

13-C. The Ralph E. Willard House, 1932, contributing:

This is a 1-1/2 story clapboarded cape with gabled roof and full dormers front and back. The porticoed entry porch was added c. 1940 and has classically-derived mouldings complementing those of the house. On the front dormer, paired double-hung 6/6 windows flank a single double hung window, giving the appearance of an older house. There is also a detached gable roofed garage (c. 1950). A 30 x 40' hybrid frame barn with vertical board siding and gabled roof stands 400' from the house at the end of an open field. The Willard barn was constructed in the early 1920's for stock and fodder storage by the Benjamin Mason homestead.

13-D. The Leighton Dairy Barn and Silo, 1890, non-contributing but as yet unevaluated historic archaeological site:

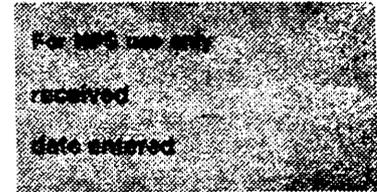
The remains of an old fieldstone foundation are visible above ground, near the abandoned road, in the southwest corner of the Howe property. This foundation is the remains of the Leighton Monadnock Farm #4 barn which burned in 1910. Though not investigated by the archaeological research team, this barn foundation and its attached silo foundation represent the expanded 20th century barn and silo form. As such, this site is unique for the Rural District. Filled in by the owners in the first half of the 20th century, this site may have the potential to yield significant information about the Leighton dairy farm operation, and 20th century farming techniques in the District.

LOT NUMBER 14, 1762, contributing:

This entire lot is used as open pasture and cultivated fields as it has been for over two hundred years. Old Harrisville Road forms the northern boundary for the lot, following the old range lines. The #4 Hill Road follows a portion of the western lot line in the northwest corner. No structures exist within the lot, but the remains of an early brickyard have been identified near the center of the lot.

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This lot was purchased by Thaddeus Mason in 1799 and passed through the same ownership as lot number 13 throughout the nineteenth century. This lot was farmed by the Masons throughout much of the nineteenth century. Today this lot retains the connection with lot number 13 by way of identical ownership: the Walker and Howe families own all of this area.

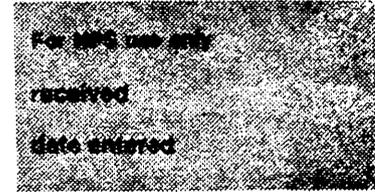
14-A Mason Brickyard, ca. 1839, contributing historic archaeological site:

The Mason brickyard (NH42-26) is one of five small mid-nineteenth century brickyards historically documented for Dublin and Harrisville, but it is the only one for which the location and physical remains have been identified and documented. Three of these sites are recorded in Leonard and Seward's History of Dublin (two in Dublin and one in Pottersville), and one is referenced in the industrial census (listed under Nelson, but with a Harrisville postal address). The fifth site is documented in a new primary source -- the 1839 account book of Elias Joslin, a blacksmith whose shop was located just outside the eastern boundary of the Rural District. Joslin mentions "drawing 300 bricks from Mason's". Together, these brickyards represent local industries which utilized available raw materials to supply a local market.

In 1981, a University of New Hampshire research team mapped the site (see 14-A in the appendix), sampled its contents with five shovel test pits (STP), and determined that the physical remains had integrity. The team was unable to develop an historic context for significance and research value, primarily because it was seeking a direct link to the Harrisville mills as the primary determinant. Integrity has been reevaluated and confirmed for this nomination, based upon a generic model for brickyard setting, features, and content. And significance and research value is now derived from the historic context of the Rural District and the interdependence between agriculture and industry.

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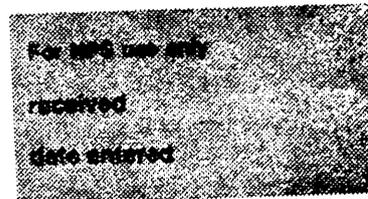
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The setting of a brickyard includes the location in relation to raw materials, owner's residence, transportation routes, and markets. The Mason site lies south of Venable Road in a heavily wooded area adjacent to a brook and at the base of a slope consisting of clay loam, just beyond a cultivated field and separated from it by a stone wall. It is ideally located with respect to sources of clay, water, sand and wood -- especially the preferred hemlock. The owner's residence sits directly across Venable Road, and transportation routes are nearby, the brickyard being only 400 feet south of Venable Road and 1200 feet west of Old Harrisville Road. Joslin's account indicates the product had a local market.

Features of a brickyard occur in discreet activity areas which reflect steps in the manufacturing of brick (the procurement of clay, clay processing, drying, firing, and waste disposal). These features may include excavated areas, open yards, foundations of permanent structures such as sheds, kiln foundations, and dumps. The Mason site has features which represent the manufacturing process from beginning to end. An open pit clay quarry measures 24 x 34 meters across. Two stone walls which form a corner of a permanent structure are partially exposed on the westerly side of the quarry. Below the quarry is an open yard (the area of STP #3). A large waster dump measuring 24 x 40 meters is separated from the other features by a wide stone wall; the wall predates the brickyard and was breeched to connect the activity areas.

Artifacts from brickyards are expected to be limited in diversity and related to the manufacturing process, structures and the work force. Limited subsurface testing of the Mason site has confirmed the vertical and horizontal integrity of its content. Nails were recovered from within the foundation. The dump has a minimum depth of 35 centimeters, and consists of deformed and unusable brick. The area of STP #3 is devoid of bricks and other artifacts as appropriate for an open yard.

Although there is no evidence for a kiln foundation, the number and kind of subsurface tests were inappropriate to locate such a structure. However, there are two reasons the potential

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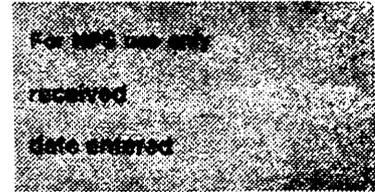
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is high for locating a kiln foundation within or adjacent to the dump. The first, kilns were often banked with discarded bricks. Secondly, at a recently excavated pottery site in the state, two separate and distinct kiln foundations were uncovered below 30 centimeters of topsoil and brick fragments; these foundations comprise an area of 6 x 9 meters, an area much smaller than the Mason dump, and they were preserved intact at a site where all surface features of the site had vanished.

Based upon the available evidence, research at the site should document in detail the spatial distribution of manufacturing activities, the methods employed (including the use of a permanent kiln or a temporary firing structure), the volume of clay extracted and the potential production rate or duration of operation. Brick making as a rural industry was a seasonal activity with each firing requiring a week or more during the dry months of late summer and early fall. Based upon rough estimates, if only 5% of the excavated raw material was suitable for brick making, then the production rate could still be as high as 10,000 bricks/year for 15 years. This type of research will not only enhance an understanding of this particular site, but brick making as a rural industry throughout New England.

LOT NUMBER 15:, 1773, contributing:

Barely one third of this original lot falls within the boundaries of the Rural District, however this portion of the original lot does contain the Marlow loam type soils which run throughout the Rural District. The ancient stone walls marking all sides of the lot still stand, as does a possible "marking" pine in the southeast corner. An old road lined with additional stone walls cuts across the lot between the archaeological remains of Monadnock Farm #4 (in Lot #13) and Monadnock Farm #5 (outside of the district) of the Leighton dairy complex established in the late 19th century. Monadnock Farm #4 burned in 1910; Farm #5 burned in 1916. Approximately 30 acres remain open as rented sheep and cow pastures. The historic archaeological remains of the Josiah Stanford homestead

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are located very near the intersection of Venable Road and the #4 Hill Road. The current Young residence sits just north of the Stanford home site. The house was built in the 1930's by Lawrence Rathbun. As chief forester for many years of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests Rathbun was the first to establish a small-lot tree farm at his residence. His example led to the establishment of several similar tree farms throughout the district after World War II.

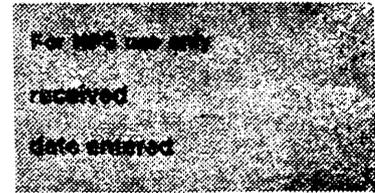
Caleb Stanford purchased most of this lot and a portion of lot 16, range 9 in January, 1773. Josiah Stanford and later Phineas Stanford were first residents of the site, although neither ever owned the property. Caleb Stanford is said to have settled nearby on Lot 14, Range 10. The lot was farmed by the Stanford family from 1773 to 1783, at which time the property was sold to Thaddeus Mason. The Mason family farmed the site until 1854. Amos Perry became owner of the lot from 1854 to 1884 but did not live on the site. He and his cousin Thaddeus Mason owned and operated a woodenware factory near the outlet of North Pond. This mill was later sold to Zophar Willard and his partner and became the Willard and Atwood Clothespin Mill. In 1914 this mill became the Winn Chair Factory. It is interesting to note that the Mason, Perry and Willard ownership of the mill is closely associated with the ownership of this property. The Leighton family owned the farm in 1890, when it became known as Monadnock Farm No. 4, an operating dairy farm. Throughout the nineteenth century the wool, sheep, wood and hay produced on the farm were often sold to the Cheshire Mills in the village. Orlando Fogg is listed as resident of the site in 1870. Fogg had 50 sheep and produced 218 pounds of wool which he sold to the mills in the 1870's.

15-A. The Josiah Stanford Homestead, 1773, non-contributing historic archaeological site:

This site consists of a series of visible foundation remains located in a small grove of trees close to the intersection of Venable Road and the #4 Hill Road. The site has not been investigated.

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15-B. The Jane Young House, ca. 1935, contributing:

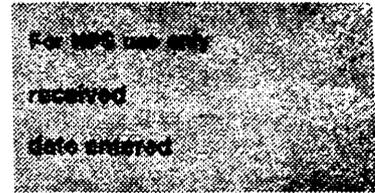
This is a five bay, 1 1/2 story center entrance clapboarded cape with gable roof and two end chimneys. The house was built by Lawrence Rathbun, chief forester of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests. Two gabled dormers pierce the south roof and a full dormer extends off the back. All windows are 6/6, and the front door is wooden. A one story sunroom extends off the east side of the house. An attached rear ell and a garage (15-Ba) run to the north of the house. A detached two story rectangular barn with gabled roof sits close to the house.

LOT NUMBER 16:, 1773, contributing:

Today this area is a combination of open pasture, hay field and woodlands lying above the 1400' contour line boundary of the district. Use of this piece of land as pasture or cultivated field followed similar patterns as those of Lot Number 15. Ownership of this portion of Lot 15, Range 8 follows the same history as that of Lot 15, Range 9. This northeast corner of the original proprietor's lot was deeded the Caleb Stanford by David Morse in 1773 along with all of Lot 15, Range 9. Today this property is owned and farmed by Mrs. Young.

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C. Boundary Description

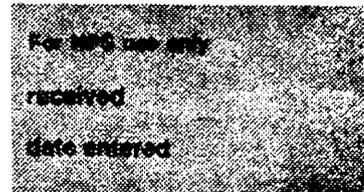
The boundaries of the Harrisville Rural District begin at the southwest corner of Range 8, Lot 14; thence easterly along the Dublin/Harrisville town line to the southeast corner of Range 8, Lot 8; thence northerly to said lot's northeast corner, thence easterly to the southeast corner of Range 9, Lot 7; thence northerly to said lot's northeast corner; thence westerly to the northwest corner of Range 9, Lot 8; thence southerly to said lot's southwest corner; thence westerly to the point where the northern line of Range 8, Lot 9 crosses the 1400 foot elevation contour line; thence westerly along said contour line to where it crosses the #4 Hill Road, thence southwest along said road to McVeagh Road, then southeast along McVeagh Road to the point of origin.

D. Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Harrisville Rural District are based on historic, cultural and topographic criteria. Boundaries for the district are based on Masonian proprietor's original lot lines as surveyed in ranges and lots. The southern boundary primarily follows the Dublin/Harrisville town line; the remainder of the southern boundary is drawn from the history of land use and based on original lot lines. The northern boundary was drawn on the 1400 foot elevation contour line, the physical location of a steep drop-off which made land north of this line unsuitable for cultivation, a principal activity in the district. The western boundary delineates the end of the Beech Hill Ridge agricultural area. Land west of this boundary is identical in topography and soil composition to land north of the 1400' contour. Historically, all lands within the district share similar topography, soil composition, settlement, ownership and land use patterns.

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HARRISVILLE RURAL DISTRICT

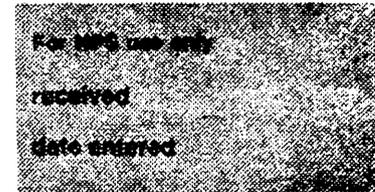
There are 26 contributing buildings, 9 contributing archaeological sites, 34 non-contributing buildings and 2 non-contributing archaeological sites in the district.

The 26 contributing buildings include 10 dwellings and 16 outbuildings (barns, etc.)

The 9 contributing archaeological sites include 8 dwelling sites and associated outbuildings, and 1 industrial archaeological site. The 2 non-contributing but as yet unevaluated archaeological sites have multiple foundations.

The 34 non-contributing buildings include 13 houses and 6 outbuildings post-dating 1950, 4 houses significant as part of the Beech Hill Summer Home District, 2 cottages and 9 outbuildings also part of the Summer Home District.

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district represents an agricultural area with defined boundaries whose components possess a sense of past time and place, surviving in the form of extant farm houses and archaeological sites regularly dispersed amid stone walled fields and areas covered with secondary forest growth. Under criterion D, the district possesses extensive research potential using traditional and non-traditional investigative techniques.

1. Settlement and Agricultural Development/Decline

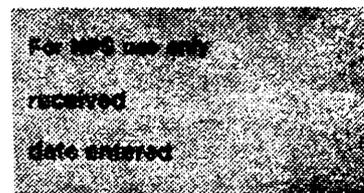
Settlement 1762-1815

The district's structures and sites share a common development during the land's settlement in the late eighteenth century. The area's broad historical context was established when lots were granted to shareholders in 1749, and lot lines were subsequently laid out between 1750 and 1755. The conditions of the grant specified that the shareholders or the settlers they sold to, must enter the lot within 4 years, clear and enclose at least three acres of land and make it fit for mowing or tillage. Within six months a house must be built "the Room Sixteen feet Square at the Least fitted and finished for a comfortable Dwelling." A resident must live there and improve at least two acres per year for a few years thereafter. These requirements indicate how rapidly land in the Rural District was cleared. The formerly forested region was radically altered as acres of fields were established and miles of stone walls were built from abundant glacial fieldstones. Each lot remained forested in the steepest and rockiest places or in parts of the lot most distant from the dwelling, affording each family the required 20 cords of fuelwood per year (average).

Settlement in the district occurred between 1762 and 1815. The area was particularly attractive for its extent of cultivatable land. Other areas to the north and west of the rural district contained poorer soils and lands too steep for cultivation. The small pockets of arable land which did exist in these areas were settled at approximately the same time as the rural district. Farms were small scale family enterprises which included mowing, tillage, and the raising of a few animals and poultry. The majority of settlers came from small eastern Massachusetts towns; most were of Scotch-Irish ethnicity.

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Almost every early farmstead operated a small cottage textile industry within the home, using wool and flax produced on the farm.

Agricultural Development 1815 - 1870

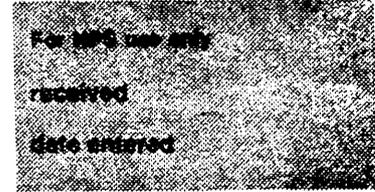
In the nineteenth century the Rural District's farms gradually increased production to feed a growing non-farming population. As the regional economy changed from a barter system to a cash system, the mills and the village of Harrisville became an important source of cash for families in the rural district. Maple sugar, potatoes, butter, cheese, grain, and animals were a few of the area's cash crops. Wool became the most significant non-food crop. Farms in the district had continuous commercial dealings with the developing mills in the village, notably as sources for wool during the 1830's and 1840's, followed by mutton and other meats, cordwood and timber to local woodenware manufacturies. Owners of seven homesteads had known connections with the mills; four others had possible or indirect associations. This symbiotic economic relationship between the farms and the mills gives the district significance to the history of commerce in the area.

Agricultural Transition and Decline 1870 - 1940

1870 to 1900 was a period of transition for farms in the Rural District. Wool production declined with a decrease in the mill's production of woolen goods. Sheep flocks were gradually replaced by dairy herds; cordwood production increased along with sales of maple syrup, meat and market produce.

John Armstrong chronicles the activities in the Rural District as well as in Harrisville as a whole, in his history Factory Under the Elms. His research separates the town history into the periods identified here. He notes that the number of sheep declined from 612 in 1874 to 210 in 1900. By 1940 there were no sheep in the town. The number of cows declined from 405 in 1874 to 224 in 1886 and remained at this level until the end of the century. Butter, milk and cheese were sold in Harrisville and, via the new railroad, to Keene and beyond. The town sought to encourage the dairy industry by granting tax exemptions to creameries and cheese factories.

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George Leighton bought the Stanford homestead on HRD 15 and 16 in 1881 and the Adams homestead west of the district in 1890 to develop large-scale specialized dairy farms known as Monadnock Farms #4 and #5. Throughout the district, barns were added or existing barns were expanded to accommodate the change from sheep to dairy farming. HRD 1-A built a dairy barn in 1870 and made alterations to some of the existing sheds and barns; HRD 3-A added a new barn in the late 19th century and specialized in the production of butter, cheese, maple sugar and potatoes. HRD 10-B built a farm complex in 1884 for the production of fresh meat, produce and dairy goods to supply the large mansion house. Cordwood, always a cash crop of the district, reached new production highs during this period.

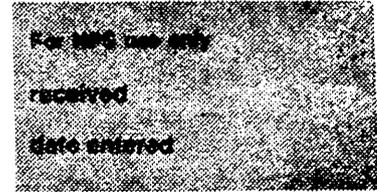
As farmers left their rural homes to seek a livelihood in industrial villages, some farms were sold to non-residents who wanted summer homes with fresh air, good land, and attractive views. HRD 13-A added on a large two story wing to the main farmhouse, probably in an effort to accommodate summer boarders to the area. Large summer residences were built along Old Harrisville Road in HRD 10 and 12, providing summer employment to other residents of the district.

While the period 1870-1900 can be considered a period of transition and adaptation, 1900-1940 saw the decline of commercial agriculture in the district. Between 1900 and 1940 every type of livestock listed on the Harrisville Town Census records declined by at least 75%. The dairy industry was no exception. George Leighton's dairy operation on HRD 15 and 16 burned in 1910. His lands were sold to Lawrence Rathbun, chief forester for the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests. Rathbun operated both farms as tree farms, keeping the old roads open as logging roads and renting the open fields for pasture.

Four modest farmsteads built in the 1930's (HRD 4-B, 13-B, 13-C and 15-B) indicate a brief renaissance in farming in the district, undoubtedly due to the difficult economics of the period. The rural population of Harrisville increased from 127 in 1930 to 173 in 1940, indicating a return to subsistence farming. These farms, consisting of house, barn and a few acres, allowed for modest income, but did not match the scale of production of the average farm in the district 100 years

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earlier. By 1941 there was no herd containing as many as 10 cows, the minimum number estimated necessary to show a profit in dairying. As dairying declined, poultry raising did not take its place as it did in other portions of New England. Instead, the trend for more intensive farming led the few remaining farmers to till only 25% of the land they owned, with the remainder reverting to secondary forest. Some farm land was divided and sold in small parcels. Today, approximately 200 acres of the Rural District are cultivated or pasture land. Of the five extant original homesteads, three produce some form of agricultural income.

The personal automobile, the first of which arrived in Harrisville in 1900, enabled the average person to live further from the village center if they so desired. From the 1930's to the present, small houses have sprung up on country roads in the Rural District and other outlying areas where there were once only farmhouses. The largest concentration of these newer homes on small lots is situated close to the intersection of Venable Road and New Harrisville Road, the main access road between Harrisville and Dublin.

2. Commerce and Associations with the Mill Village

Throughout its history, individuals in the Rural District have been linked socially, politically, and economically to the inhabitants and industries in Harrisville village. From its earliest settlement, inhabitants of the area, because of their Scotch-Irish ethnic background, shared a common knowledge of the raising of flax and wool, and the talents for a strong cottage textile industry. At least ten of the earliest resident families in the district grew wool and flax and operated a cottage textile industry on their farms prior to the development of the mills in the village. These individuals include: Josiah Stanford, Benjamin Mason, Reuben Morse, Jabez Puffer, Joseph, Abijah and Joshua Twitchell, Ebenezer Cobb, Aaron Marshall, and Jonathan Morse. This background, coupled with the geographic proximity of good water power, led to the establishment of the Harrisville mill industry early in the nineteenth century.

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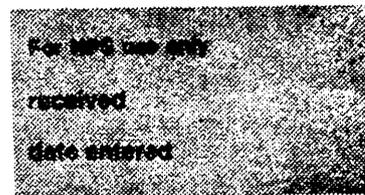
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Throughout the nineteenth century, residents of the Rural District were suppliers of wool, wood, meat, vegetables and dairy products for the mills and their workers. Suppliers of wool include: Thaddeus Mason and Orlando Fogg (lot HRD 15), Levi Emery (lot HRD 13), Reuben Morse, Bela Morse, Alva Kendall (lot HRD 10), Moses Twitchell (lot HRD 7), Alexander Emes (lot HRD 2), Luke Richardson, Ruel Brigham, and David Townsend (lot HRD 2), and Winslow Royce (lot HRD 1). Suppliers of wood (cordwood or lumber for the box mills) include: Solon Willard (lot HRD 13), Augustus LaPointe (lot HRD 7), Gilman Kendall (lot HRD 8), George Wood (lot HRD 4), and Winslow Royce (lot HRD 1). Suppliers of meat and vegetables include: George Wood (lot HRD 4), Ruel Brigham (lot HRD 2), Winslow Royce (lot HRD 1) and Amos Emery (lot HRD 3).

Patterns of land ownership between the mill owners and properties in the rural district continue even today. The Cheshire Mill records indicate ownership of some rural district farms in the 1850's and 60's. The Colony family, current owners of the Harris Mills, own property in the rural district (HRD 6 and 11). A similar pattern exists between other village residents and rural district properties. Similarly, as transportation improved and the mills grew (1850-1890), some inhabitants of the Rural District such as Augustus LaPointe (Lot HRD 7), Amos Emery Perry, and Moses K. Perry (Lot HRD 2), left the family farm and built houses in the village, living and working in the small town.

A number of links can be drawn through marriages between families in the Rural District and the mill families. Abel Twitchell, close relative of Joseph, Abijah and Joshua Twitchell, lived in Dublin on Old Harrisville Road. His daughter, Deborah, married Bethuel Harris, owner of the Harris Mill. Their son, Calvin Harris, married Lucretia Perry, granddaughter of Amos Emery (Lot HRD 3). Emeline Emes Joslin, granddaughter of Alexander Emes (Lot HRD 2), married Horatio Colony in 1840. Horatio Colony became president, treasurer and clerk of Cheshire Mills in 1884.

Some residents of the rural district owned mill operations in the village. Thaddeus P. Mason, resident of lot HRD 15 in the first half of the nineteenth century, became partners with

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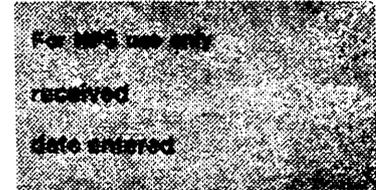
his cousin, Amos E. Perry and owned a mill on Goose Brook which produced boxes for the Cheshire and Harris Mills. The mill continued to do business with the textile mills throughout the nineteenth century. In the 1890's, the mill became a clothespin factory, operated by residents of the rural district; in 1914 the mill became a chair factory.

Throughout the second half of the nineteenth century the mills or the mill owners bought land in the rural district, including lot HRD 5 in 1858, lot HRD 7, 1869-1879, and lot HRD 8 in 1873. Today the Colony family, ex-owners of the Cheshire Mills, own lot HRD 6 and portions of lots HRD 5 and HRD 11.

Social connections through marriage can be found repeatedly among the families in the rural district. In this sense, the district is similar to most other rural localities. For example, Alexander Emes, owner of the Ebenezer Cobb Homestead in lot HRD 2, married Beriah Marshall in 1792. She had grown up at her parents farm just south in lot HRD 2. They had ten children, three of which survived childhood: Sarah married a Dublin Fisk and left town; Maria married Elias Joslin, a blacksmith who prospered in Hancock, Dublin and Keene and whose decedents, (the Colonys) returned to Harrisville in the late nineteenth century to run the Cheshire Mills; and Emeline, the youngest daughter, married Charles Townsend who had sisters and brothers (David, Jonathan and Amos Townsend) in the close vicinity. Emeline Emes and Charles Townsend took over the Marshall farm (his grandfather's) and lived there until their deaths. Similar connections can be drawn for many other families in the district.

Politically, the rural district was a birthplace of many of the town's leaders. The Morse and Mason families took a leading role in early town government; The Twitchells were among the first mill builders; all three families were rooted in the farms of the Harrisville Rural District. (Lots HRD 1, 2, 5, 10, and 13).

These examples illustrate a few of the social, economic, political and familial ties which existed within the district and with the Harrisville mills. Every resident of the rural district contributed to the patterns of life which helped the mills to prosper in the nineteenth century.

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3. Building Types

The Harrisville Rural District contains 68 structures. Five dwellings and their associated outbuildings contribute to the primary period of significance, 5 houses and 9 outbuildings contribute to the secondary period of significance, 6 houses and 9 outbuildings do not contribute to the Rural District, but are architecturally significant to the Summer Home District, and 13 houses and 6 outbuildings are non-contributing.

The five extant early farmsteads with standing structures (HRD 1-A, 2-C, 3-A, 5-A, and 13-A) are the core of those buildings contributing to the early period. Later additions and alterations, significant to the secondary period of significance, demonstrate the 'change over time' philosophy of adaptation so prevalent throughout New England. These five early buildings illustrate the combination of practicality, adaptation and attention to period architectural fashion which characterizes rural New England. As a whole, the five units serve as an intact and ongoing tangible archive of the interaction between socio-economic tradition and innovation which characterized the transition of New England from a primarily agricultural to a predominantly-industrial economy and society.

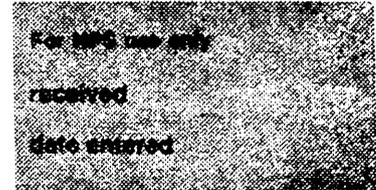
These five farmsteads share proximity; a common geography, ecology, and topography; an inter-related history, development period, and thematic/personal associations; a unified mutualistic economy; and a building tradition incorporating both vernacular and fashionable "mass-culture" trends. Most of all, they share a common and consensual community identity - and identification with the National Historic Landmark industrial village of Harrisville.

The 1771-74 Abijah Twitchell residence represents the evolution of the vernacular "hall and parlor" arrangement into the standard symmetrical cape cottage type. Although it was modified in the late 19th and early 20th centuries as a suburban farm residence reflecting the secondary period of significance, its original appearance is easily inferred.

Changes were made with evident respect for the original building, its characteristic features and materials. Interestingly, the primary dwelling and the rear ell have been the most altered, while the original (or very early) kitchen ell

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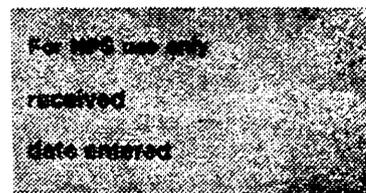
between them is virtually unchanged. The treatment of the front entrance and windows is symptomatic: although openings were enlarged for a modern appearance, the symmetry of the original rhythm was retained. The entrance design is either a Federal-era "improvement" or a 20th century attempt at "restoration". Similarly, expansion of the ell and the addition of a glazed "winter room" porch (a characteristic local feature throughout western New Hampshire, during the period 1900-1940) testify to changing standards for living space, and new opportunities for rest or leisure.

The Abijah Twitchell homestead demonstrates that despite the popularity of connected architecture, not all successful farms chose to adopt the new connected arrangement; and by the time the Twitchell dwelling was modified, the vogue for connections had already passed. Thus, the homestead represents both the early and late manifestations of farm planning design, and adaptation without the middle "connected" period.

The ca. 1860 Aaron Marshall homestead (almost identical to the contemporaneous houses along Peanut Row in the National Landmark village) illustrates the popularity and adaptability of the Greek Revival sidehall house type in New England, both in urban and rural settings; truly the multi-purpose house plan of the mid-19th century. Stylistically, this house represents the subordination of vernacular preference to current popular tastes. It also represents the speed and thoroughness with which technological innovation in house design was accepted, even in isolated rural areas during the mid-19th century.

The progression of the "connected farmstead" arrangement here (so pervasive that it continued to influence the 20th century restoration), conforms to the theories of Joh Stilgoe and Thomas Hubka regarding deliberate efforts by "progressive farmers" in 19th century New England to develop a dwelling/barn composition that was unified in design, functional, adaptable, attractive and modern.

The 1780 Amos Emery homestead includes a dwelling that, Janus-faced, is a vernacular continuation of the medieval "half-house" plan, and an anticipation of the Greek Revival sidehall form, both of which are combined, with economical use

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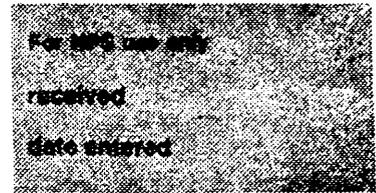
of space and materials, into a Georgian-type center-chimney house type. It is therefore of immense importance as a local example of a national phenomenon - the transformation from the medieval to modern - which occurred during the last half of the 18th century.

The site plan, which exhibits adaptation, with the continuity of use for over 200 years - illustrates the theories of Stilgoe and Hubka about evolution of hill-farm organization, as reflected in building types and placement, from the 18th to the 20th centuries. A fieldstone foundation to the rear of the dwelling is identified by oral tradition as that of the first barn, built of hewn timbers and separated from the house and road by a considerable distance. The 'new' barn was built in the late 19th century and was located between the house and the road. The "new" barn conforms to Hubka's thesis that in the mid-19th century farmers, influenced by the progressive agriculture movement, reorganized their farmsteads to face outward to the road - a change which Hubka, for a variety of reasons, views as a fundamental change in American attitudes toward local, regional and national markets and socio-economic systems.

The ca. 1790 Jonathan Morse homestead represents the "hall-and-parlor" variant of the 5-bay, 1 1/2 story cape dwelling, with the traditional complement of ells and sheds. Its vernacular origins are apparent in its floor plan and structural system, combined with Federal-style interior hardware and detailing (which would have been very modern when the house was new).

Oral tradition identifies the original dwelling with a "log cabin", but even in the 17th century, New Hampshire log houses were generally built of hewn, rather than round, timbers, so the tradition - if correct - could refer to "plank" wall construction that is as yet poorly documented in the region.

The dwelling and ells retain most of their early materials, details, and finishes; they also record the Yankee practice of interior redecoration in early houses during the Victorian era to conform to popular taste, without major structural changes.

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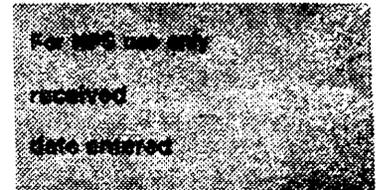
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The original barn is located close to the southeast corner of the ell and is said to have been moved, during the 19th century, to its present location from elsewhere on Beech Hill, but never connected to the house "due to the danger of fire". This corroborates Hubka's findings that the fear of fire and long-standing prohibitions based on fire prevention concerns, were a counter-trend which opposed the connection of dwellings to farm buildings. It also supports Hubka's observation that barns were often re-located within existing complexes for various functional and/or aesthetic reasons. In that sense, the Morse homestead represents a compromise between concerns for convenience and safety, as well as an accommodation of tradition and change in a single building complex.

The 1762 Benjamin Mason homestead is the most complex of the five remaining early farmsteads with standing structures in the Rural District. The core of the complex was originally a ca. 1762, 1 1/2 story, 5-bay cape that, before 1812, was moved easterly "downhill", closer to Venable Road, placed into the side hill, and given an additional story so that it had an at-grade entrance at both levels.

The kitchen ell was added by 1840, and it was extended by an element now gone to incorporate a privy and laundry. The timber-framed barn to the rear of the ell is said to be the oldest in the area, predating 1800. Adjacent, but not attached, was an 1840 horse barn (replaced by a new barn on the same foundation in 1975). Further east is a shop in which leather shoes were made - a manufacturer which was very important in mid-19th century New Hampshire. During the 1870's, a porch addition was made to the east side of the kitchen ell; and a large two-story wing was added to the west side of the dwelling, perhaps an effort to accommodate summer boarders. An auto garage/shop was added across Venable Road in the 1920's, and the west addition to the house was removed in 1946, followed by changes in fenestration and siding.

At the Benjamin Mason homestead, the cumulative tangible record of both the Mason family, and their principal 19th and 20th century successors, the Emery and Willard families, reflect various economic and entrepreneurial activities, providing an additional dimension to the significance of the property, and its spatial, visual and productive utilization.

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These properties are now documented by a large, varied and growing data base drawn from oral, written, published, graphic and three-dimensional sources, which provides the opportunity for cross-referencing, comparing, contrasting, and modeling by different scientific and humanistic disciplines. The commonality of the factors influencing them makes them particularly valuable for testing theories advanced by Henry Glassie, Fred Kniffen, Thomas Hubka, John Stilgoe, et al., regarding architectural diffusion and development as expressed both in vernacular building constructions and landscape planning; the role of the market in affecting farmstead design; and the manifestations - noted by John Stilgoe and Peter Schmitt - of the 20th century "back to nature" movement in a variety of rural trends, including the emergence of suburban farmsteads.

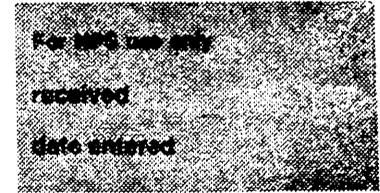
The detailed site drawings, plans and descriptions of these first period properties indicate the evolution of each farmstead and illustrate architectural adaptation trends for the district. When combined with the preliminary archaeological layouts of another seven original farmsteads, and augmented with the descriptions of later 19th and 20th century residences built in the district, the evolving patterns of architectural styling for rural residential and agricultural structures in the district become obvious.

While the extant farmsteads show the predominance of a connected house-outbuilding plan, five of the archaeological sites within the District demonstrate arrested development of the 'interconnected outbuildings' process. Two other sites show no indication of building additions or attempts to develop an interconnected structure. All of these sites show a history of non-owner occupancy for a portion of the operating history of each location. This lack of farm building improvement therefore, may be linked to the economic situation of the occupants, and may become clearly evident upon retrieval of the material culture remains at each location.

The only industrial property type within the Rural District is the Mason brickyard (14-A). It is only one of five 19th century brickyards known to exist in Dublin and Harrisville, and the only one with identified and documented physical remains. This archaeological site is an example of a brick manufacturing facility, a property type which no longer exists in the district. It is a good example of its type and has value for its potential to yield information about a once extent rural industry.

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As the only industrial archaeological site in the Rural District, the Mason Brickyard (14-A) is especially important because it represents so clearly the entrepreneurial elements which characterized early farmers. This aspect is often associated with rural communities as they become influenced by their relationship to the village mills. This site documents that the Rural District was experiencing "commercialization of the countryside", which is not an intrusion but a way of giving the rural area a greater vitality.

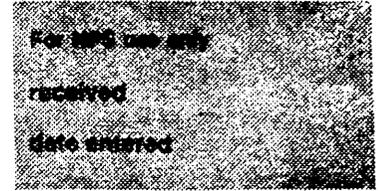
Except for Sky Field, the 20th century farm houses exhibit a remarkable uniformity in scale and style which complement the architecture of the earlier period. All are derived from the 18th century vernacular cape, which was the earliest architectural style in the Rural District.

The 1884 "Meath Farm" complex at Sky Field (10-Ba to 10-Bc) is historically significant as an example of the "gentleman's farm" country estate which became popular during the post-Civil-War period. Architecturally, its use of a simplified version of the shingle style, integrated with vernacular functional elements in the barns and outbuildings, reflects the historical origins of the style - a deliberate reinterpretation of early New England "pioneer" farm dwellings. The replacement of the burned main house with a formal, brick Georgian Revival dwelling is characteristic of the upgrading of the residences at their rural complexes by Monadnock Region summer colonists - perhaps partly as a manifestation of permanence, indicating their increasing identification with the area.

Despite its small size and simple appearance, the Earl and Evelyn Fisher house and barn (4-B and 4-Ba) are indeed a complex, uniting several trends of innovation and tradition of the period, both in architecture and agriculture. The basic form of the dwelling represents the continuing popularity, especially in the Harrisville Rural District, of the traditional cape plan; and the shingled exterior and camp-style wing are part of the summer home tradition, albeit at a modest scale. The barn, also shingled, is likewise a dual reference to other shingle style structures in the Rural and Summer Home Districts, while its form is derived from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's promotion of gambrel barn design during the early 20th century. The house and barn, intended from the beginning to function as a suburban part-time farm, thus maintain the rural district patterns of continuity and adaptation into the mid-20th century.

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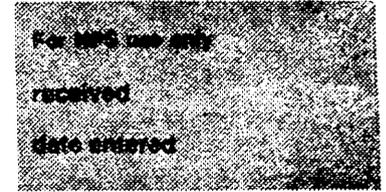
The Howe House (13-B and 13-Ba) reflects the pervasive influence of the cape dwelling tradition on the Rural District, and offers an interesting contrast to the Young House, also built at approximately the same time.

Unlike the Young Residence, which was apparently intended as an architectural reproduction, the Howe dwelling incorporates several features (e.g. paired windows and casement sash) popular for standard suburban dwellings of the period; but these elements are subsumed within a composition which - with its form, dimensions, materials, symmetry, and detailing - remains clearly as an expression of the district's basic dwelling type, the 18th century cape.

The Young House/barn complex (15-B and 15-Ba) - built, like the Howe house, at the end of the district's secondary period of significance - is a fitting final expression of its agricultural and architectural evolution.

Hubka's thesis about the values and symbolism inherent in northern New England farmstead complexes was unknown at the time the Young structures were built, yet they seem to unconsciously corroborate his observations. The cape plan and Greek Revival detailing (typical of the mid-19th century 'Classic Cottage' type), augmented with ells and wings, and complimented with a closely located but detached barn, reproduce the characteristics of farmsteads within the rural district in the middle of the 19th century, when it reached its greatest economic prosperity and largest developmental extent. Lawrence Rathbun's interest in developing the site as a tree farm was unique to the region, but his new house reflected the traditions of the district in both styling and complex layout, a fitting coda to the architectural trends of the region.

Unlike "high-style" structures based on published examples of master works, each of the farmsteads in the Rural District evolved through the interaction of personal needs, available resources, and shared values; each individual unit or component and its surrounding landscape is an interdependent architectural element essential to understanding the attitudes, technologies, skills, perceptions, values, achievements and failures of the people who built, maintained, and adapted the buildings over a period of more than two hundred years, spanning the most fundamental change in American agricultural and social history.

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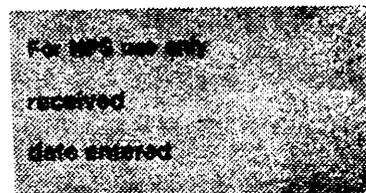
From the earliest settlement to the mid-20th century, there is a strong sense of continuity in building traditions by those who worked the land and viewed the land as integral to their lifestyle. This suggests that the way the cultural landscape is perceived may determine the selection of vernacular architectural expression and building types -- i.e., a continuing common response represents a shared perception of the natural and cultural landscape which sets limits to appropriate development.

#### 4. Key Individuals from the Rural District

Three of among perhaps a half dozen Rural District homesteaders made particularly notable contributions both at the local level to their newly incorporated town (Dublin) and, at the state level, to their even newer state, New Hampshire. (Dublin was incorporated in 1768 with Harrisville succeeding in 1870; New Hampshire joined the union in 1788). The three leaders were Amos Emery (HRD 3-A), Reuben Morse (HRD 10-A), and Benjamin Mason (HRD 13-A).

Both Emery and Morse represented Dublin at the state Constitutional Convention in 1782. And while Amos Emery served as a Dublin selectman in 1781 and 1784, Reuben Morse was selectman for 20 annual sessions between the crucial years concerning the founding of Dublin between 1773 and 1807. In addition, Morse was town moderator in 1786.

The contributions of Benjamin Mason were more than just political. He was born in Watertown, Massachusetts in 1717 and died at his homestead in the Rural District in 1801. Like Morse and Emery he was an important town leader who served on several organizations such as school committees, tax evaluation boards, and in 1771 as selectman (as did his son Thaddeus Mason for seven terms between 1789 and 1802). Benjamin Mason worked several days in both 1764 and 1765 to help build a network of Dublin roads (including Venable Road) in lieu of early assessments to build a meeting house. Mason was also a master carpenter who, in Dublin's town histories, is credited with the construction of many of the homes in his neighborhood. At

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'raisings', it is reported, he 'was distinguished for his agility, fearlessness, and self possession.' There is no way of knowing exactly how many of the homes in the Rural District were designed and constructed by Mason, but if his own homestead is a fair sample of his work, four or five may have also been built by him. Mason's great English barn, the only barn of that vintage still standing, may be a measure of his carpentry skills.

With the help of his son, Lt. Thaddeus Mason of the American Revolution, who purchased part of lot HRD 12 cady-corner to his, and with the succession of his son Bela to run his homestead, the Masons produced a farm enterprise which provided a comfortable lifestyle for over two centuries which essentially remains intact to this day. The Masons were progressive in their farming efforts. They were one of the first to sell beef to the Harrisville boarding house. They set up a brick yard down the hill from their farm fields. They were one of the major wool producers in the district. During the influx of summer visitors to the region in the late 19th century, they added a large wing on to the farmhouse to most likely accomodate summer boarders. Thaddeus Mason became partners with his cousin Amos E. Perry and owned a wooden box mill, later a clothes pin factory, on Goose Brook in the village.

Other residents such as George Wood (HRD 4) and Larry Rathbun (HRD 15) influenced town politics and state agencies while residing in the Rural District. (Wood was selectman of Harrisville in 1870; Rathbun was chief forester for the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests in the early 20th century). Politically, socially, and economically, these residents of the Harrisville Rural District played key roles in shaping the community in which they lived.

## 5. Research

A combination of field and documentary data is important in determining the economic and environmental variables which affected land use in the area. The interplay of cultural and environmental variables in determining settlement patterns in New England is an unexplored research problem. The expanses of land, trees, walls, and original roads in the Harrisville Rural District are important for answering these questions.

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All of the district's farms share certain environmental parameters such as soil type, drainage, and topography that are desirable constants for biological and ecological studies. There has been no extensive tree-planting or commercial lumbering activities since natural reforestation began in the 19th century, indicating that the integrity of the area, evaluated with regard to the ability of these studies to yield productive results, is very high. Written records are available relating both to the individual farmsteads and to the Harrisville mills, providing the necessary historic documentation to correlate with the field studies. Surveys have identified archaeological deposits which should provide the material culture data base necessary to investigate variations in wealth and status through time.

Richard C. Waldbauer spoke of the research potential of the Harrisville Rural District at the 1985 annual meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology:

"The preservation of Harrisville is a rare effort which recognizes the interdependence of people in a rural community. It shows that the roles of farmers were fundamentally interactive. Over time the nature of those interactions changed, and the preservation of a laboratory in which to study those changes is critical. The archaeological analysis of land-use patterns may be the only way in which the different kinds of information about rural life can be gathered together to interpret community history. It is only through an understanding of how farm families transformed the landscape by agricultural strategies that documentary and oral history evidence on production and social relations can be placed in context."

The application of non-traditional archaeological techniques to study land use and reforestation of abandoned fields will further enhance understanding of the district's hill farms.

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These non-traditional methods are being developed by, among others, Steve Hamburg (1984) and include the retrieving of information from analysis of soil, stone walls and other near-ground structures, and living trees. Hamburg's methods can determine the type of agricultural land use which took place on subsequently abandoned, now reforested, land. Because cattle tend to eat hardwood seedlings and leave conifer seedlings, ex-pastures and ex-fields can be identified through the age, type and distribution of trees. Sample corings from trees, their shape and branching habits, and species distribution help illuminate and date the abandonment process so prevalent in the Rural District. Soil pits show plow layers which can indicate intensity and method of previous cultivation. Standard Soil Conservation Service formulas can be worked backward to indicate the number of years a field was open by the amount of eroded soil which collects beside stone walls. Despite reforestation, the chemical analysis of soils remains constant, an indication of soil fertility levels.

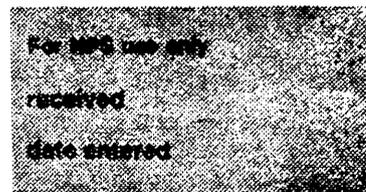
Hamburg has called the Harrisville Rural District "one of the most intact hill farm areas I have seen" (Hamburg, July 30, 1983).

"There are only three comparable research areas in New England: Hopkins Forest, Williamstown, MA; Harvard Forest, Petersham, MA; and the Bald Mountain Community, Campton, NH. From what is known at this time, I have no hesitation in saying that the Harrisville Rural District, of any of the New England sites, has the greatest potential to further our understanding of resource-economic and social-interconnectedness during the past two hundred years."

Traditional archaeological techniques, using retrievable material culture, can provide information critical to answering questions relating to social complexity, land use and building traditions. Assistant Professor of Anthropology of Dartmouth College, Barbara McMillan, in her 1982 report to the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development,

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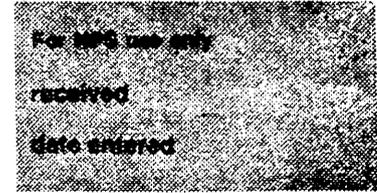
outlined key research areas which can be addressed through archaeology in the Harrisville Rural District:

It is essential in interpreting economic and social processes of community development to understand variations in wealth and status through time. Is there variation among farms due to diversity of activities (occupations) carried out by any one farm? Does variation in wealth increase among the farmers as the woolen-mill complex and sheep-raising develops between 1830 and 1860? Or is there greater egalitarianism among the farmers as more benefit from the rise of the local mills, even as the mill-owners achieve higher status? Does the supposed decline in farming after 1870 or so mean reduction in wealth or status, or did substitute occupations such as wood products and maple sugar (Gates, 1978) cause no decline in well-being? These kinds of questions can be evaluated by archaeological excavations: identifications of ratios of fine ceramics, glassware, etc. versus utilitarian artifacts and the variations in size and complexity of farmsteads. This kind of information is simply not detailed in documents.

Studies done in other portions of New England show that even though gridded range and lot systems favored decentralized land holdings, subsequent land subdivisions show that "economics was a matter of kinship". As families in the Rural District buy adjacent tracts to increase lot size and pass land on to sons and daughters, familiar structure played a key role in determining land transactions. How long did this pattern occur in the Harrisville Rural District? When did it cease? Why do certain lots show leasing and tenant arrangements? As taxes increase did farm activity likewise increase?

The full range of farming activity in the Harrisville Rural District is as yet unknown, in spite of documentary records. The spatial requirements for family living and farming activities is unexplored. The excavation of farmsteads can illustrate the diversity and spatial arrangement of these activities and indicate shifts in the size of living space. Ethnobotanical and zoological information dealing with variations of wild versus domestic items and specie variations have yet to be studied.

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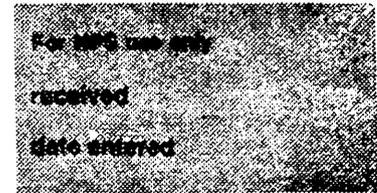
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Archaeological material and data recoverable in the Harrisville Rural District is thus an indispensable component of the district's extensive, recognized research potential. The volume and integrity of raw data combined with the large amount of pertinent documentary material available show high potential for answering research questions on the siting of houses within the land, farm layout, land use, variations of economic status, cultural and environmental self-sufficiency or interdependency, markets, cottage and mill industry and their effects on their surrounds. These data are important in understanding the evolving social and economic status of the hill farms and their role in the development of the Harrisville area, contributing significantly to the broader questions of the development and decline of the mill industry in this region. Although historic farmsteads which existed in a similar relationship to the village are located to the east, west, and north of Harrisville, their scattered positions on agriculturally less desirable lands (for reasons of soil and/or topography) limits their research potential and contributions in understanding these broader questions.

Recent historical research by Jaffee (1982) and Dublin (1979) have focused on the movement of migrants from upland farms and the impact of industry in attracting workers from upland farms during the industrial revolution. Barron (1984) has taken another perspective, looking at the reasons some upland farmers "stayed behind". All three focused on two models: "outwork", where work from the factory came piecemeal to members of farm families, and "factory production" of the Waltham-Lowell pattern, which attracted migrants from considerable distances. At the Monadnock Historical Workshop in June, 1986, these scholars, together with others, suggested Harrisville to be a third model, and probably the most common of all in the pre-Civil War period. The Harrisville model is one of small scale and local mills employing laborers from farm families in their own communities. The interdependence of products between mills and farms, and the introduction of cash into the farm economy, would have had a positive effect on the countryside.

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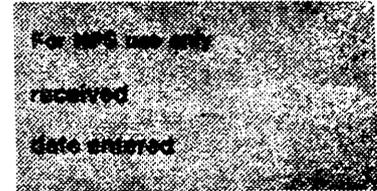
To understand the significance of this model for the Rural District, it is necessary to refer to the listing of Harrisville village as a National Historic Landmark (1977). In the nomination, reputable scholars describe Harrisville village as "the only industrial community in America that still survives in its original form", "an elegant reminder of the industrial villages in pre-Civil War New England", and as the sole example of its type which survives virtually intact.

The Monadnock Highlands were an important industrial incubator for the state and nation, and it has maintained its historical tradition of industrial activity uninterrupted to the present. The three closest analogues for Harrisville are in West Peterborough, at Ashuelot Village, and in South Keene. These were brick mill developments with mills and residential housing, but none have survived intact. They have been subject to infill, change of use, and considerable loss of integrity. While some parts are recognizable, and perhaps National Register eligible, the whole has been lost.

Other mill communities were either of a different type from the beginning, or became small urban/town industrial centers (e.g., Warner, Hillsborough Center, Antrim, Bennington, and Peterborough). Villages or hamlets which might have once paralleled Harrisville's development (e.g. Davisville) have lost all but an archaeological record of their industry. This is true throughout New England.

Each of these industrial areas undoubtedly had agrarian support communities, but if any of these can be found to have the integrity of Harrisville's Rural District they will be of considerably less value without the appropriate industrial complement. Most communities can be found to have some farms and scenic open vistas of farmscapes, but not necessarily an area that documents so fully the history of upland farms. One study area is known (Bald Mountain) but it is far removed from any major industrial development. Other hill farm communities are known to exist in the White Mountains as potential archaeological districts, but these are without the industrial component and richness of interdisciplinary research potential. Their value as a visual means of communication is less, for the landscapes are no longer active and extant farmsteads for comparisons are absent.

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We are left then with a unique industrial village and a unique complementary upland farm district. Now that recent research on industrialization has noted that the process cannot be understood without researching its rural base and continuing connections, meaningful research questions can begin to be formulated. Harrisville will be an important part of that process.

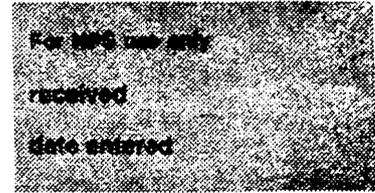
New primary sources, an account book of Elias Joslin 1841-4, and Abner Sanger's Diary 1791-4, will provide new insights into family life and social/economic ties in the Rural District. Abner Sanger had close ties with all the early farmers in the district and Twitchell's Mills. Elias Joslin, whose blacksmith shop sat just east of the Rural District, did business with all of his neighbors.

#### 6. Cultural Landscape

As a cultural landscape, the Harrisville Rural District is a remarkable example of early town planning, settlement patterns and agricultural development and decline in the New Hampshire highlands. The Rural District retains the tangible reminders of 200 years of cultural adaptation on the land and utilization of its resources - its topography, soil and forest cover. The original farmsteads and their surrounding fields, forests, stone walls, and roads comprise a cultural landscape which was active throughout the late 18th and 19th centuries, which as been preserved into the 20th century by secondary forest growth - the result of a declining agrarian economy in the area - combined with a modest continuation of farming. It is this physical evidence of the 19th century landscape, little modified and maintained by 20th century farming residents, that allows a visual understanding of the adaptations made by 19th century farmers and the slow process of change.

Harrisville, originally part of Dublin until 1870, was surveyed in 1750 and laid out in a series of ten ranges and twenty-two lots. All ranges ran east to west; lot boundaries ran north and south. Of the 220 original lots, sixteen comprise the Harrisville Rural District. Those who came to live in the Rural District bought an entire lot of at least 100 acres, and

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then, under the deed, were required to build a house, clear the land and help with other municipal tasks such as helping to care for the poor. The lots original stone walls and an occasional 'marking tree' stand today as a 215-year-old form of town planning, the predecessor to later practices for laying out counties, townships and individual farm sites in the mid-west and west.

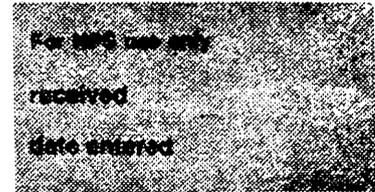
Elements within the Harrisville Rural District reflect the collective physical and aesthetic qualities which characterized settlement of the region. All original farm houses were built at the center of each original lot except where poor soils or topography forced the first settlers to build in the southern half of their lots (Lots HRD 1,5,7,9,11, 13, and 15). This regular, dispersed settlement pattern remains evident today. Later subdivisions of the sixteen original lots within the district resulted in both expanded cultivated acreage for one owner and smaller residential lots. Today, this pattern is retained, with 85% of the acreage owned by a few landholders with smaller residential lots (the remaining 15%) scattered along the existing roads throughout the district in an irregular pattern.

The district is traversed by four paved roads linking the district with the nearby villages of Harrisville, Dublin, Eastview, and Bond's Corner. These village centers were the focus of commerce for the district' farmers, with the Harrisville mills being the major consumer. Eight dirt roads and several abandoned farm roads form the internal network within the district. These road patterns have remained virtually unchanged since the mid-nineteenth century. The lack of additional new roads or major land subdivisions indicates the lack of significant development pressures on the district to date. Stone walls, wildflowers and 200 year old maples and other hardwoods line the roadways throughout the district, maintaining the historic appearance of the road networks. In spring, these maples are tapped for their maple syrup, as they have been since the area's settlement in 1762.

For the Harrisville Rural District, the forest was both a natural element to be cleared for agriculture and a resource to be farmed. The ratio of cultivated lands to woodland changed in

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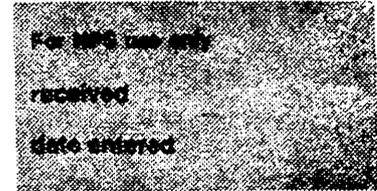
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relation to farmer's responses to social and economic pressures and opportunities. As the mills grew, peaked and declined, the ratio of cleared land to woodlands changed. As the cultural landscape of New England was 'fossilized' in the late 19th century, abandoned fields and farmsteads were left to natural reforestation until housing pressures of the post World War II era led to the reclaiming of these farmsteads and their reuse as single family house lots. The expanse of secondary forest growth which currently exists in the Harrisville Rural District consists of stands of beech, birch, maple, ash and some oak and pine. The remains of settlement and land use patterns (i.e. stone walls, field patterns, building foundations and old roads) remain intact beneath the forest cover, readily discernable to even the casual observer.

Buildings in the district reflect the prosperity of the early to mid nineteenth century. Later additions, larger barns and added porches or bigger windows indicate the resident's concern for stylistic trends in architecture, and investments in new types of agriculture. Remnants of grazing fields and sheep sheds next to later cow barns illustrate the mid-nineteenth century prosperity of the region, and adaptation of farm buildings to meet new market demands. Large, professionally designed summer residences set amidst hayfields and woodlots along Old Harrisville Road are testimony to the influence of summer visitors to the area in the late 19th century. Small farm complexes built in the early 20th century, and added garages and machine sheds reflect the smaller scale of agricultural activity after 1900, and the adaptation to mechanization on older farms. It is the appreciation for rugged terrain, rocky soils, practical, unassuming dwellings and accompanying outbuildings and the combination of dirt roads, open fields and pastures and predominance of hardwood forest which combine to give the rural district a rich sense of time and place.

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Conclusions

The houses and sites in the Rural District exemplify the historic evolution of hill country farm lands. They show a remarkable homogeneity in their evolution. The district underwent gradual development, disturbed by no unusual or singular historical event. The architecture shows the changes that have taken place to the still-existing farms over two centuries. The archaeological sites and forested farm lands offer an opportunity for investigation and research into the nature of hill farms in the Monadnock Highlands and their functional evolution through time. The Rural District is unique for the areas immediately surrounding Harrisville village for the extent of arable farm lands within its boundaries. Preservation of this area is important not only for its individual distinction and its association with the Landmark industrial village, but for its similarity to patterns of land use history in western and northern New England which are being lost to commercial and residential development.

The Harrisville Rural District is a nineteenth century landscape which reflects an earlier eighteenth century town plan. The district is comprised of a rare combination of standing farmsteads, archaeological farmstead remains and fossilized field systems which illustrate land use patterns in the district and which continues to be preserved in an isolated setting. Its internal consistency, integrity, and its unique potential for interdisciplinary research on questions of national importance give it ample significance to the National Register of Historic Places. It is singularly significant as compared to other known potential rural districts in New Hampshire because of its close physical proximity and inextricably linked cultural and social history to the Harrisville mill village, a recognized National Historic Landmark and a rare survivor of mid-nineteenth century industrial villages. The Harrisville Rural District, therefore, can illustrate and explicate the origins and development of the Harrisville landmark industrial community.

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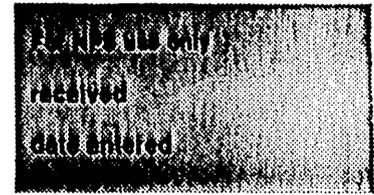
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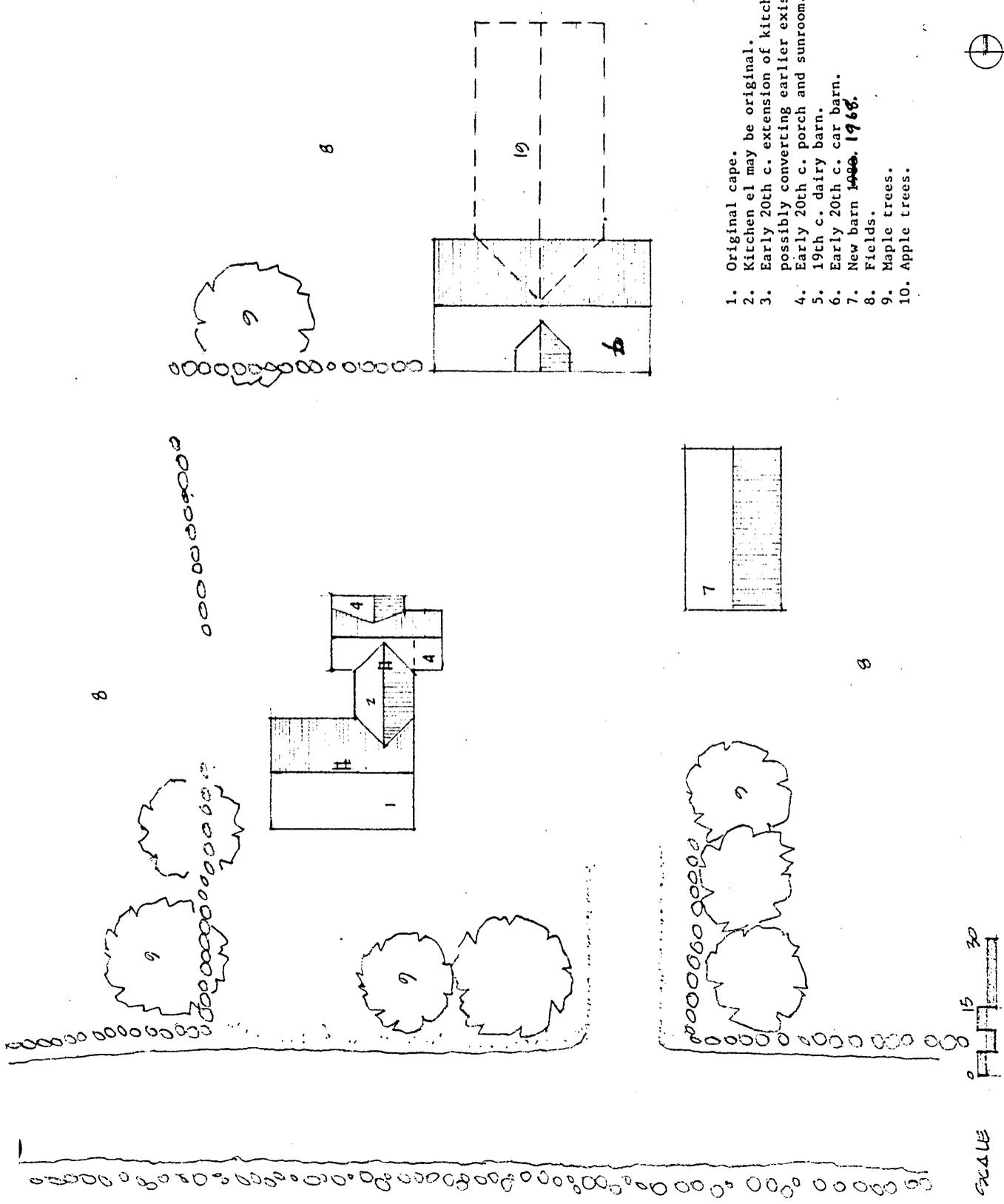
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--Site Plan--  
 1-A. The Abijah Twitchell Homestead

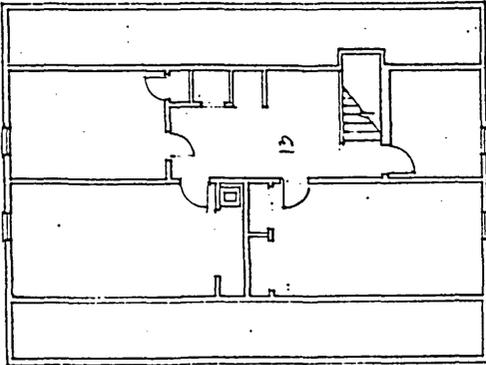


1. Original cape.
2. Kitchen el may be original.
3. Early 20th c. extension of kitchen el, possibly converting earlier existing sheds.
4. Early 20th c. porch and sunroom.
5. 19th c. dairy barn.
6. Early 20th c. car barn.
7. New barn ~~1900~~ 1968.
8. Fields.
9. Maple trees.
10. Apple trees.

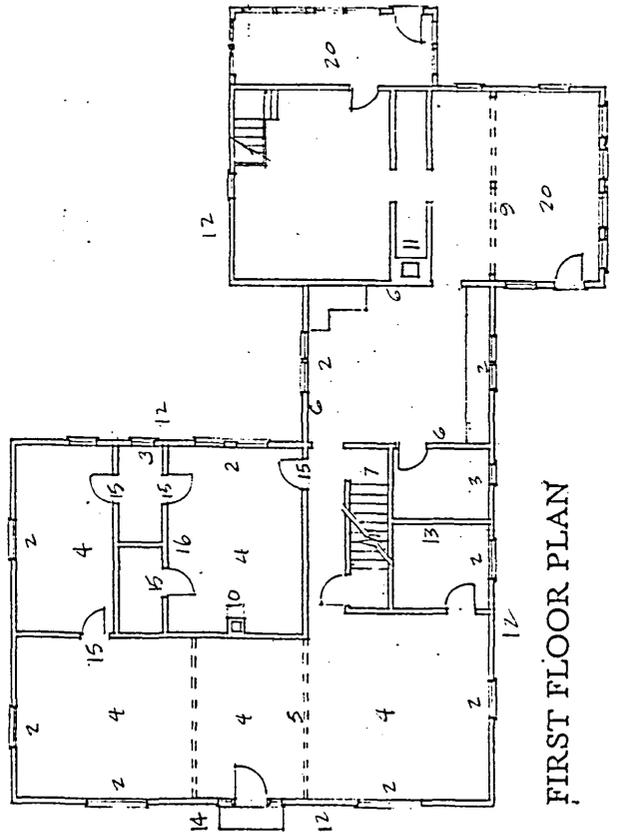
1-A. The Abijah Twitchell Homestead

1. Original window openings and casing unless indicated.
2. Existing window location modified.
3. New window opening.
4. Original wide pine flooring.
5. Beams revealing earlier entrance hall.
6. Original horizontal wide pine boards.
7. New stair location.
8. Early 20th century porch and winter room.
9. Beam to allow extension of room.
10. Central chimney adapted for 19th c. stove.
11. 19th century chimney for stove.
12. Original siding material.
13. New room partition.
14. Granite.
15. Original doors.
16. Late 19th century partitions.

SCALE 1/16" = 1'-0"  

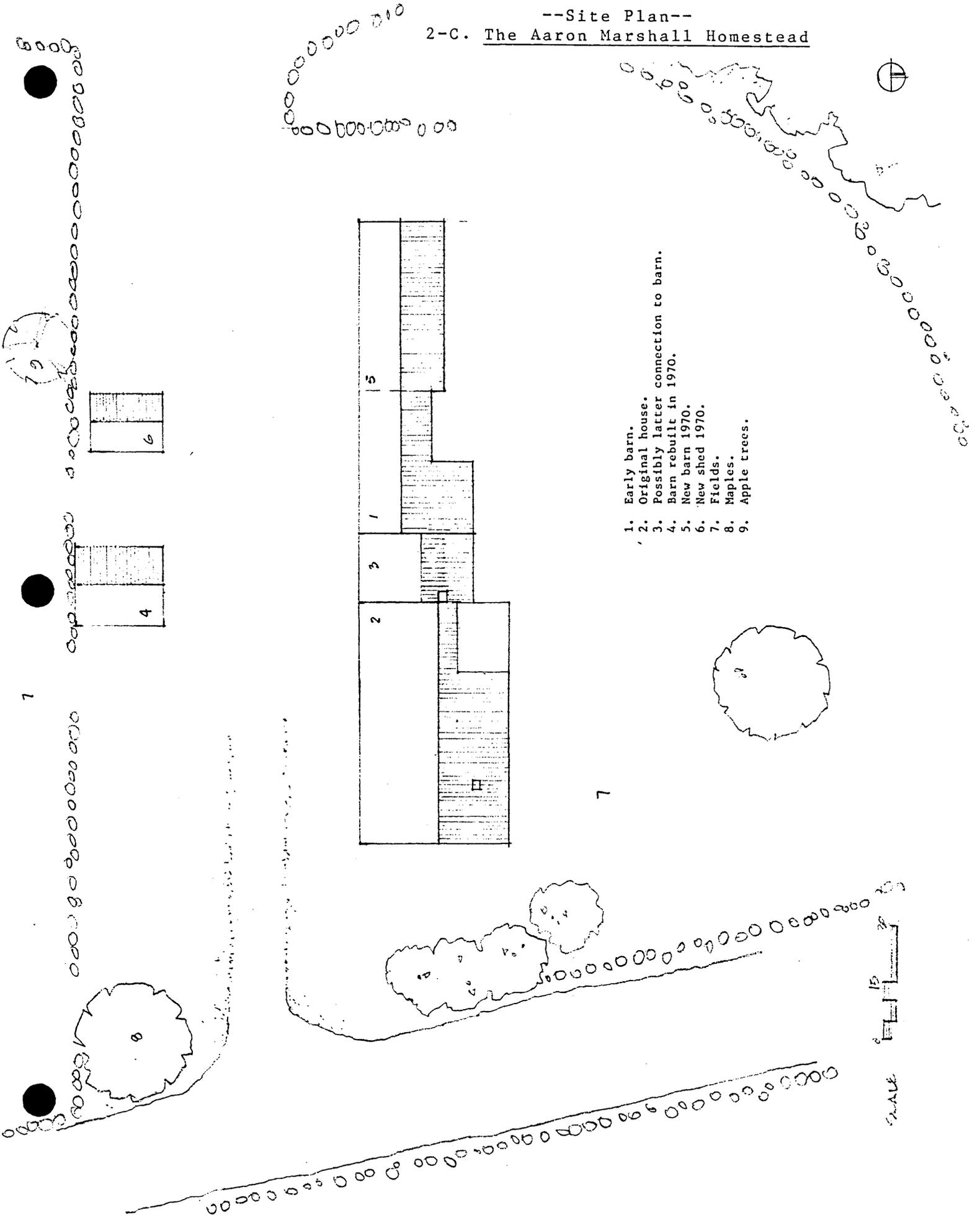



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

--Site Plan--  
 2-C. The Aaron Marshall Homestead



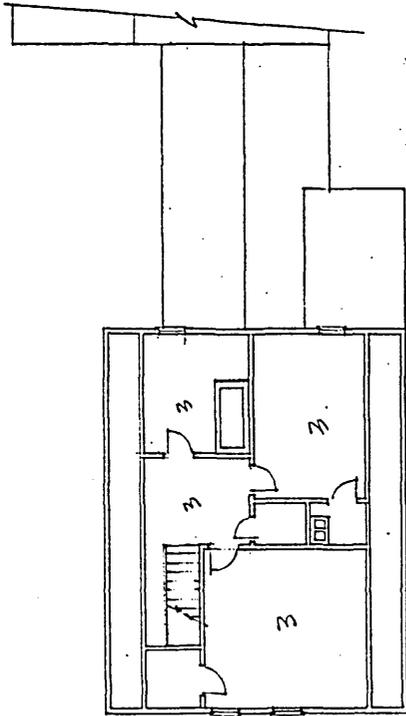
- 1. Early barn.
- 2. Original house.
- 3. Possibly latter connection to barn.
- 4. Barn rebuilt in 1970.
- 5. New barn 1970.
- 6. New shed 1970.
- 7. Fields.
- 8. Maples.
- 9. Apple trees.



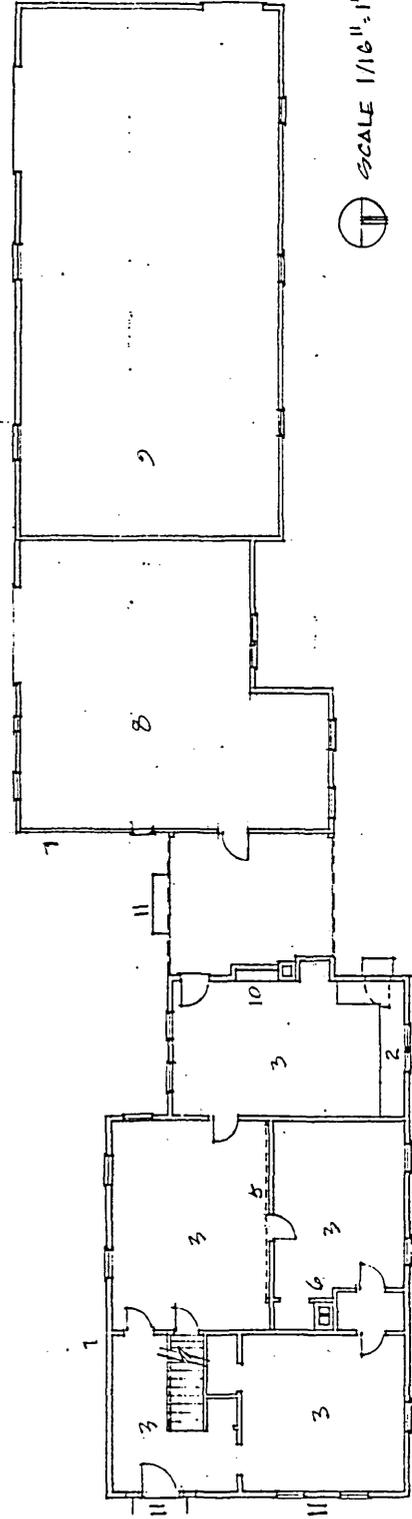
SCALE

2-C. The Aaron Marshall Homestead

1. Original window openings and casings unless indicated.
2. Existing window location modified.
3. Original wide pine flooring.
4. Original doors and hardware unless noted.
5. Wall partition removed late 19th century, replaced in 1970.
6. Chimneys for 19th century heating by stoves.
7. Original siding material.
8. Very early barn, post & beam and pegged.
9. New barn 1970.
10. Original glass cupboard and drawers.
11. Granite steps or granite faced foundation.



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

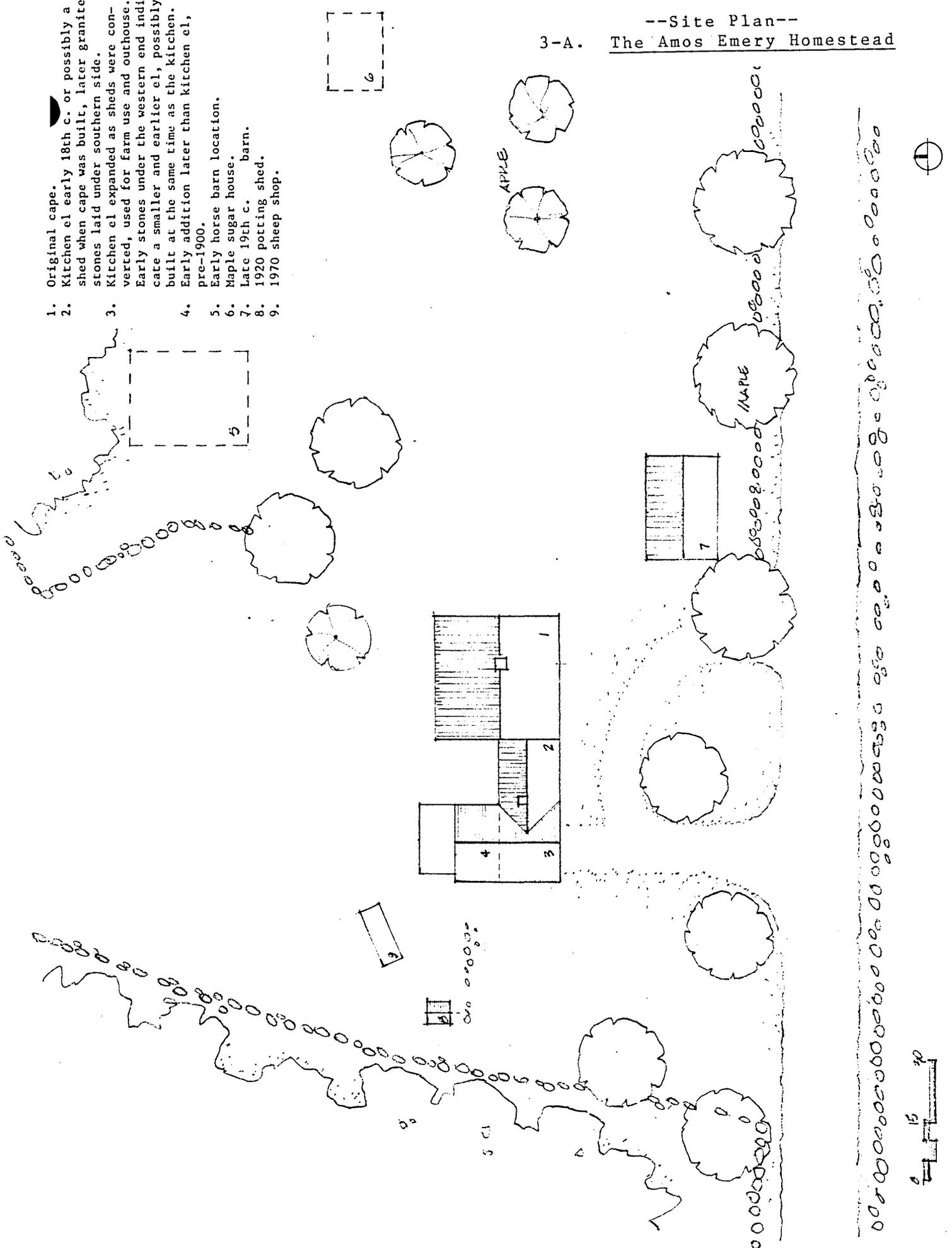


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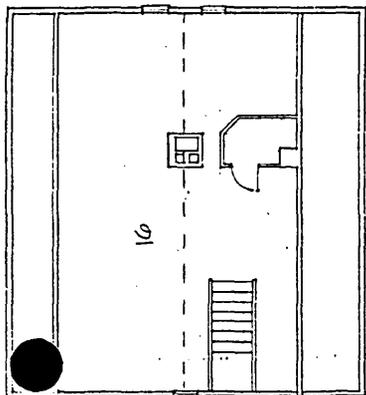
SCALE 1/16" = 1'-0"

1. Original cape.
2. Kitchen cl early 18th c. or possibly a shed when cape was built, later granite stones laid under southern side.
3. Kitchen cl expanded as sheds were converted, used for farm use and outhouse. Early stones under the western end indicate a smaller and earlier cl, possibly built at the same time as the kitchen.
4. Early addition later than kitchen cl, pre-1900.
5. Early horse barn location.
6. Maple sugar house.
7. Late 19th c. barn.
8. 1920 potting shed.
9. 1970 sheep shop.

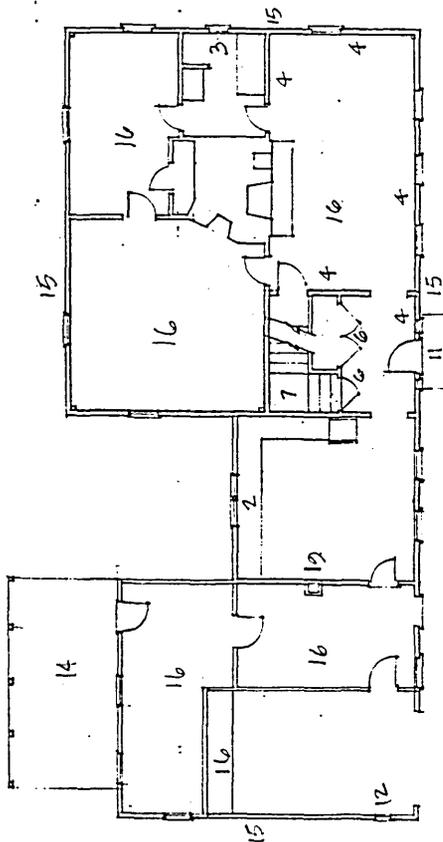
--Site Plan--  
3-A. The Amos Emery Homestead



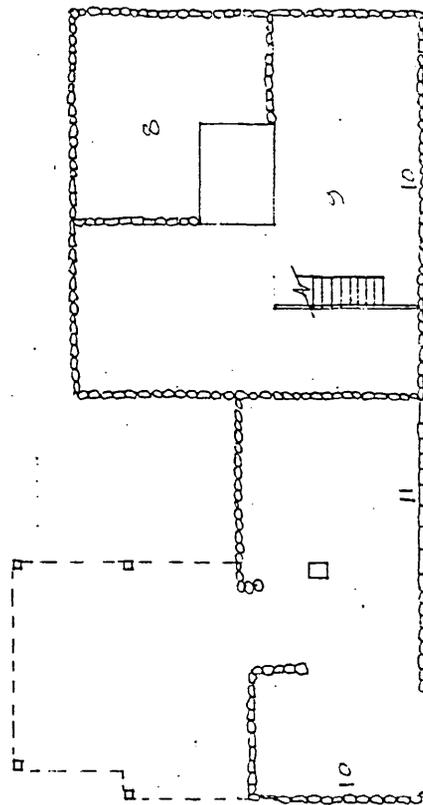
1. Original window openings and casing unless indicated.
2. Existing window location modified in 1960.
3. New window.
4. Original wide pine vertical boards, later plaster removed in 1960.
5. Original flat panel doors unless indicated.
6. New wide pine doors.
7. Steep stair run replaced by winder and closet in same location.
8. Crawl space.
9. Excavated basement.
10. Stone.
11. Granite.
12. Outhouse window.
13. 19th century chimney for stove.
14. 1960 screened porch.
15. Original siding materials.
16. WIDE PINE PLANKS



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



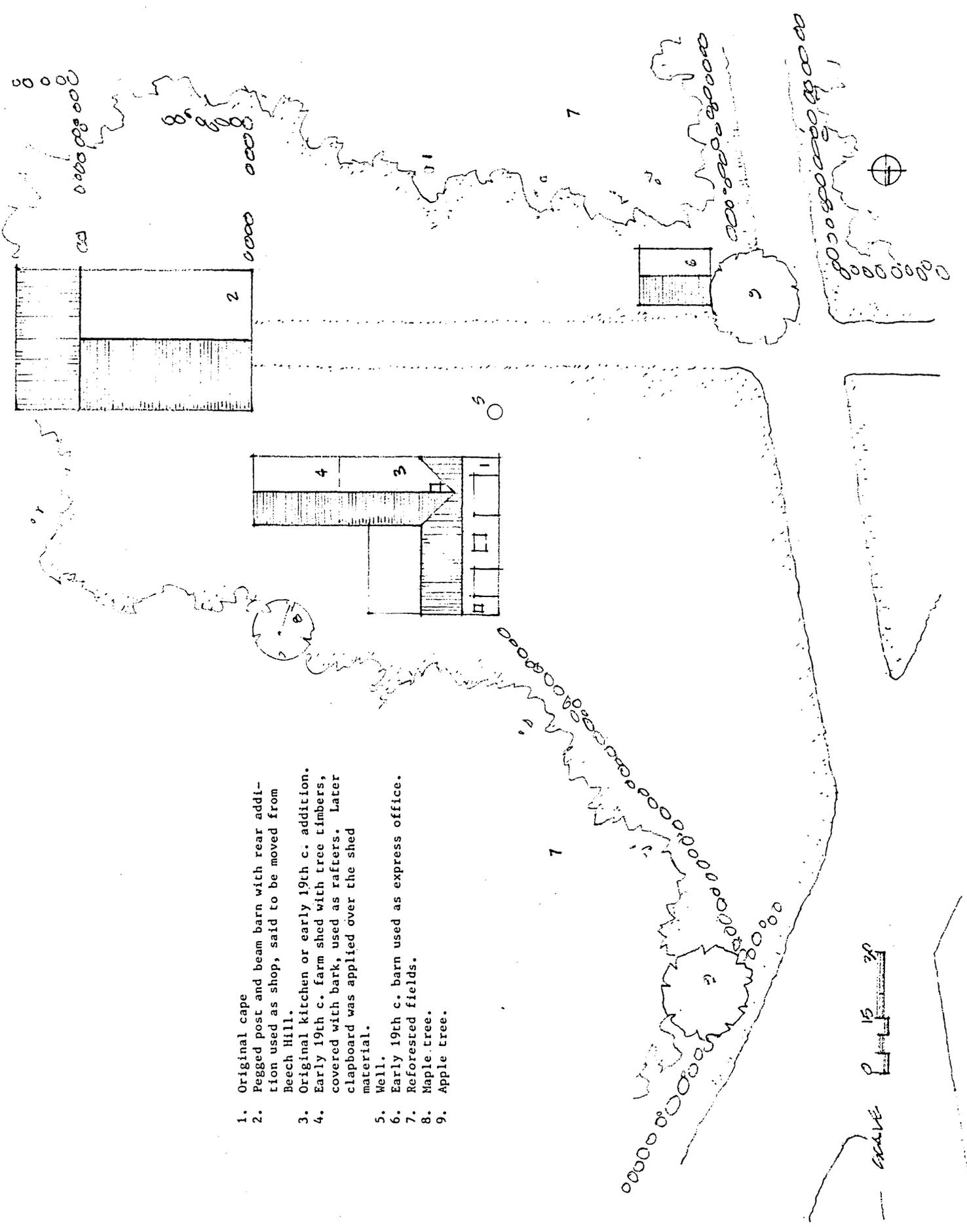
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FOUNDATION PLAN

SCALE 1/16" = 1'-0"

--Site Plan--  
 5-A. The Jonathan Morse Homestead

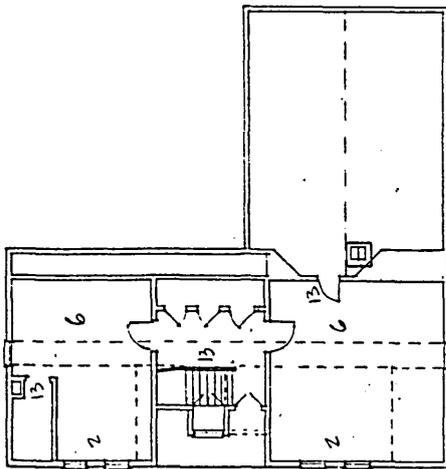


1. Original cape
2. Pegged post and beam barn with rear addition used as shop, said to be moved from Beech Hill.
3. Original kitchen or early 19th c. addition.
4. Early 19th c. farm shed with tree timbers, covered with bark, used as rafters. Later clapboard was applied over the shed material.
5. Well.
6. Early 19th c. barn used as express office.
7. Reforested fields.
8. Maple tree.
9. Apple tree.

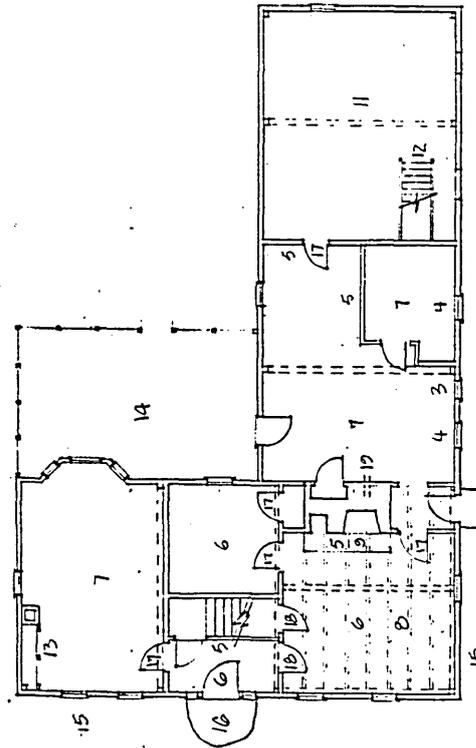
Scale 1" = 15' 30"

1. Original window openings and casings unless indicated.
2. Late 19th century dormers and windows.
3. 1950 window.
4. Original window opening sill raised.
5. Original wide pine vertical boards, plaster added to hall in late 19th century was removed in 1950.
6. Original wide pine flooring.
7. Late 19th century narrow maple flooring.
8. Ceiling plaster removed to reveal floor joists in 1950.
9. Original mantle.
10. 19th century chimney for stove.
11. Post and beam, roof timbers have bark on them.
12. 1950 stairs to new basement area.
13. Late 19th century closets
14. Porch addition 1950.
15. Original siding material.
16. Granite.
17. Original flat panel doors with latches.
18. Original raised panel doors with latches.

SCALE 1/16" = 1'-0"

SECOND FLOOR PLAN

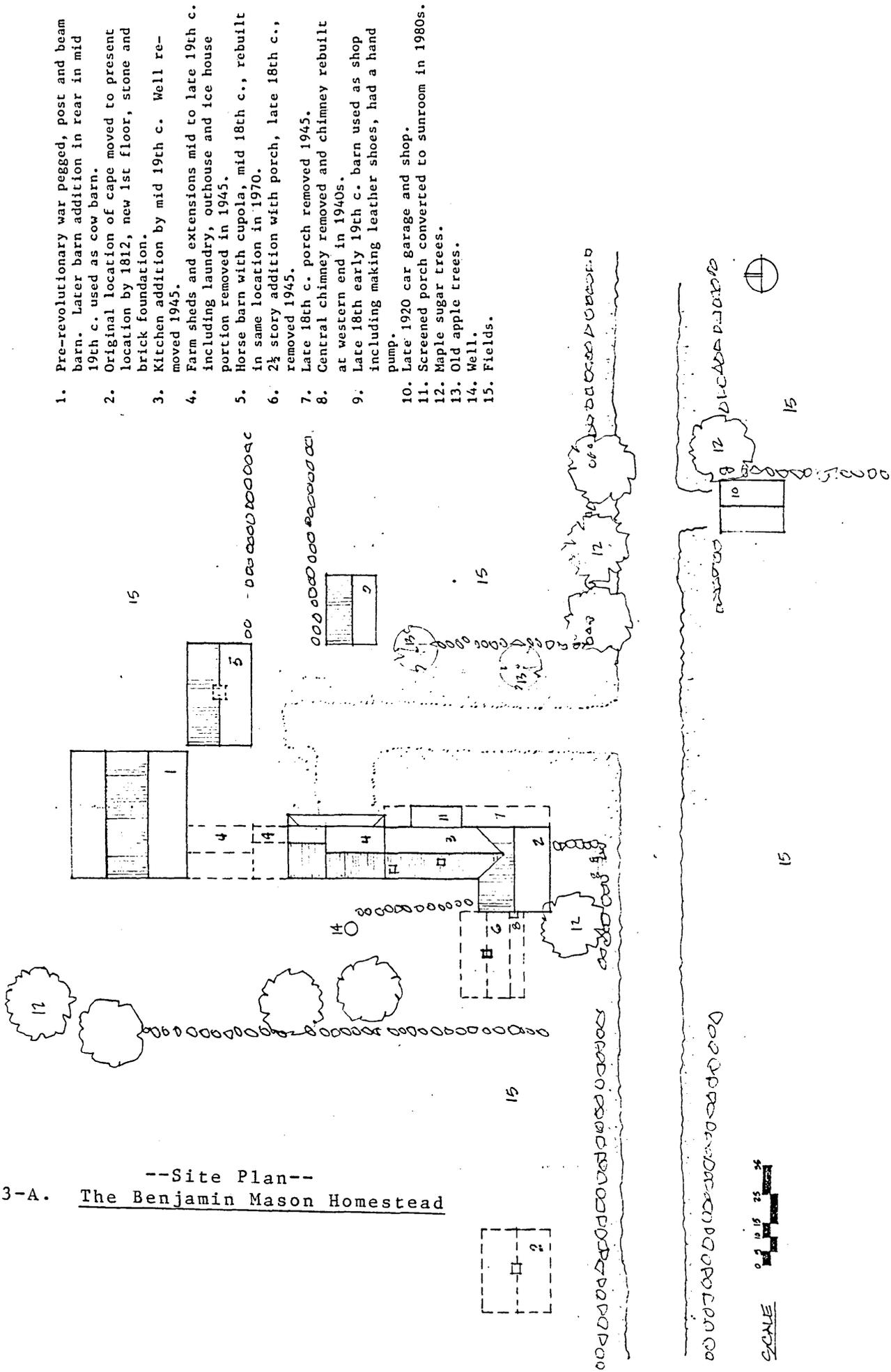


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13-A. The Benjamin Mason Homestead

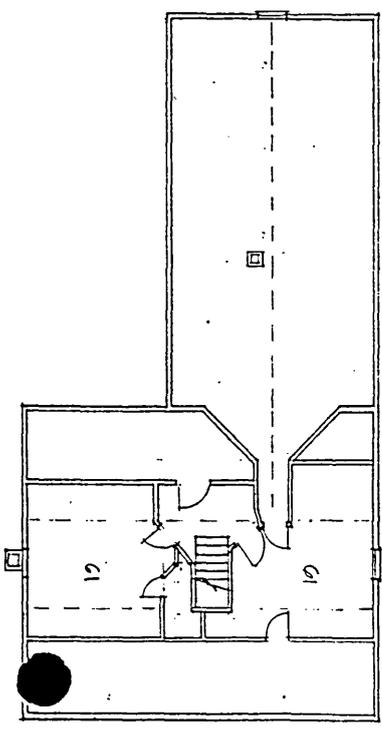
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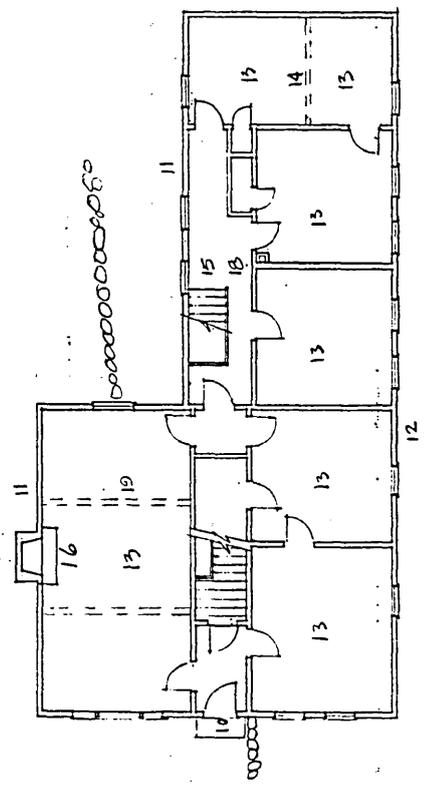
1. Pre-revolutionary war pegged, post and beam barn. Later barn addition in rear in mid 19th c. used as cow barn.
2. Original location of cape moved to present location by 1812, new 1st floor, stone and brick foundation.
3. Kitchen addition by mid 19th c. Well re-moved 1945.
4. Farm sheds and extensions mid to late 19th c. including laundry, outhouse and ice house portion removed in 1945.
5. Horse barn with cupola, mid 18th c., rebuilt in same location in 1970.
6. 2½ story addition with porch, late 18th c., removed 1945.
7. Late 18th c. porch removed 1945.
8. Central chimney removed and chimney rebuilt at western end in 1940s.
9. Late 18th early 19th c. barn used as shop including making leather shoes, had a hand pump.
10. Late 1920 car garage and shop.
11. Screened porch converted to sunroom in 1980s.
12. Maple sugar trees.
13. Old apple trees.
14. Well.
15. Fields.

1. Mid to late 19th century window openings in original locations.
2. 20th century modifications to existing window openings.
3. 20th century windows.
4. Original doors unless indicated. Flat panel or wide board doors.
5. Previous well.
6. Stone foundation, excavated.
7. Original base of central chimney.
8. Location of dutch oven.
9. Brick foundation.
10. Granite.
11. Original siding.
12. Modern siding over original siding.
13. Original wide pine floors.
14. Partition removed.
15. New late 19th c. stair location.
16. 20th century fireplace location.
17. 19th century chimney for stove.
18. 19th century room partitions and doors.
19. Original beams exposed.

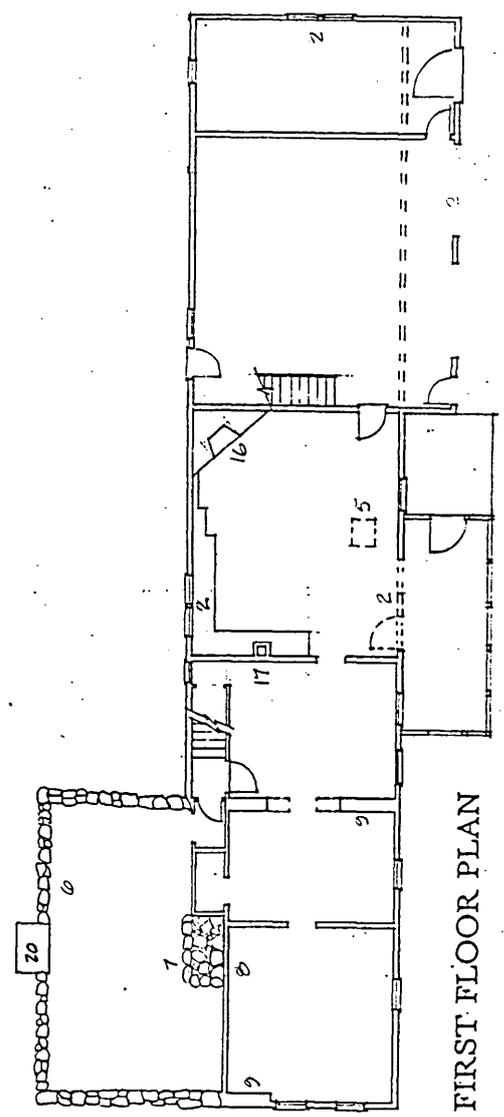
⊕ SCALE 1/16" = 1'-0"



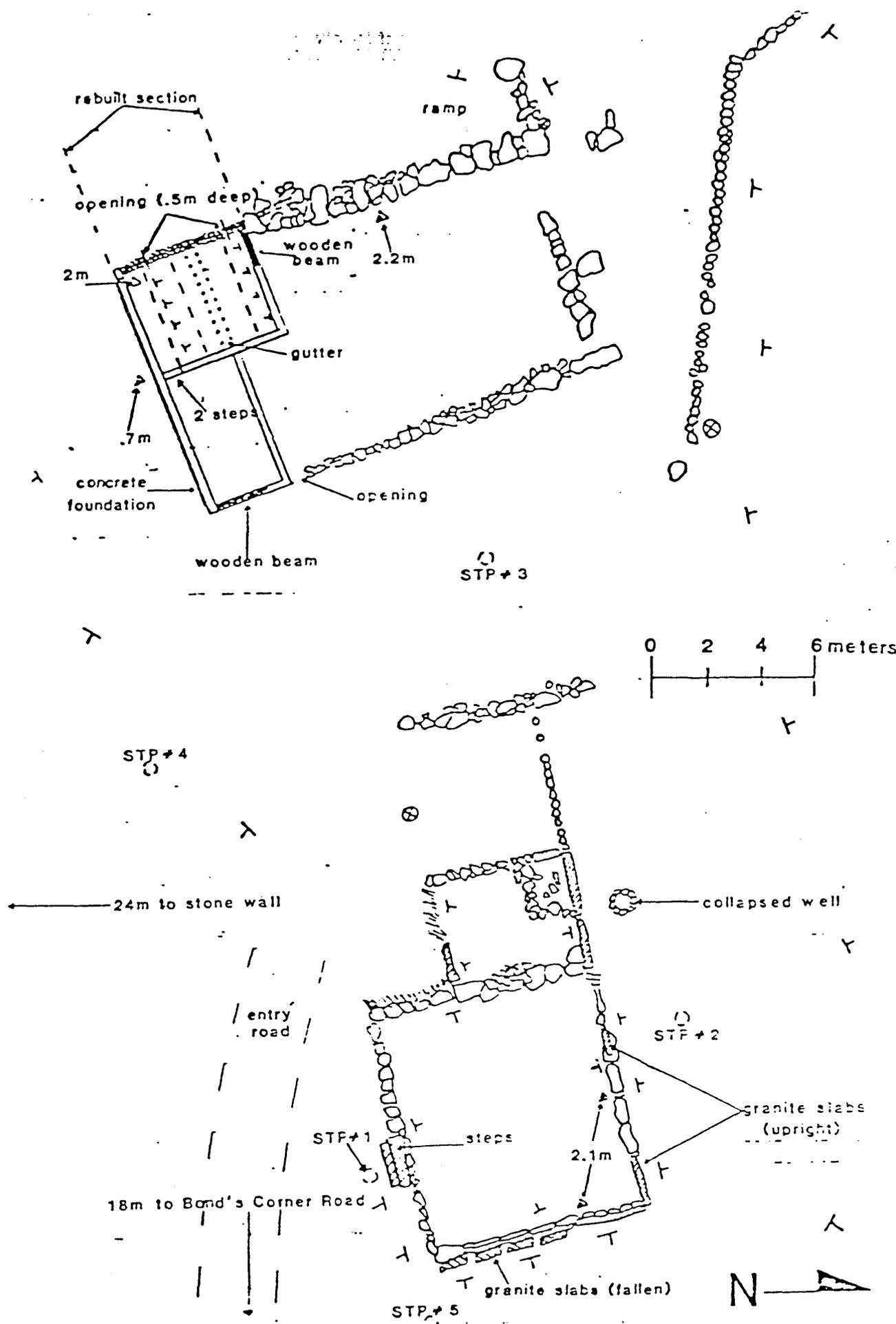
THIRD FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

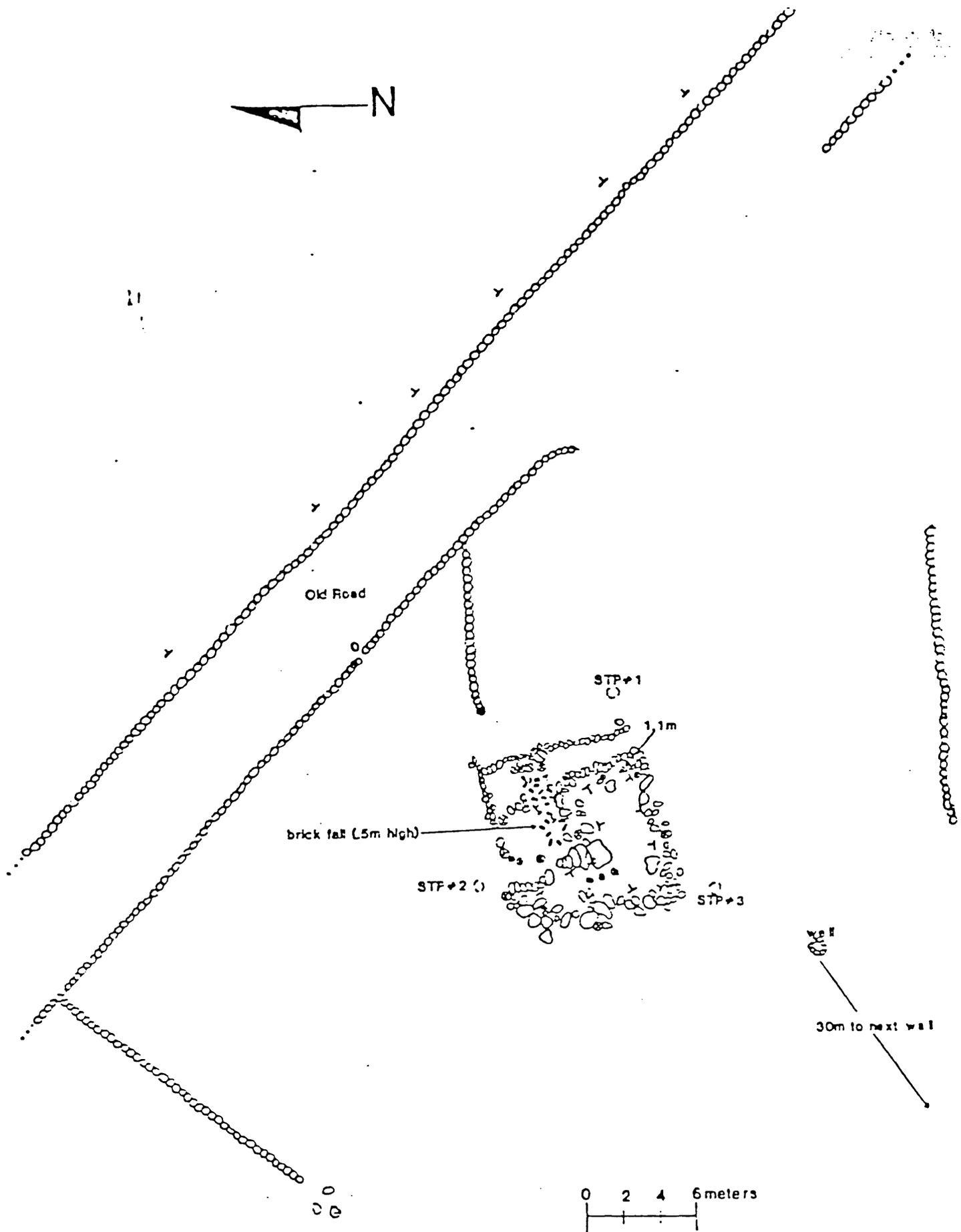


FIRST FLOOR PLAN

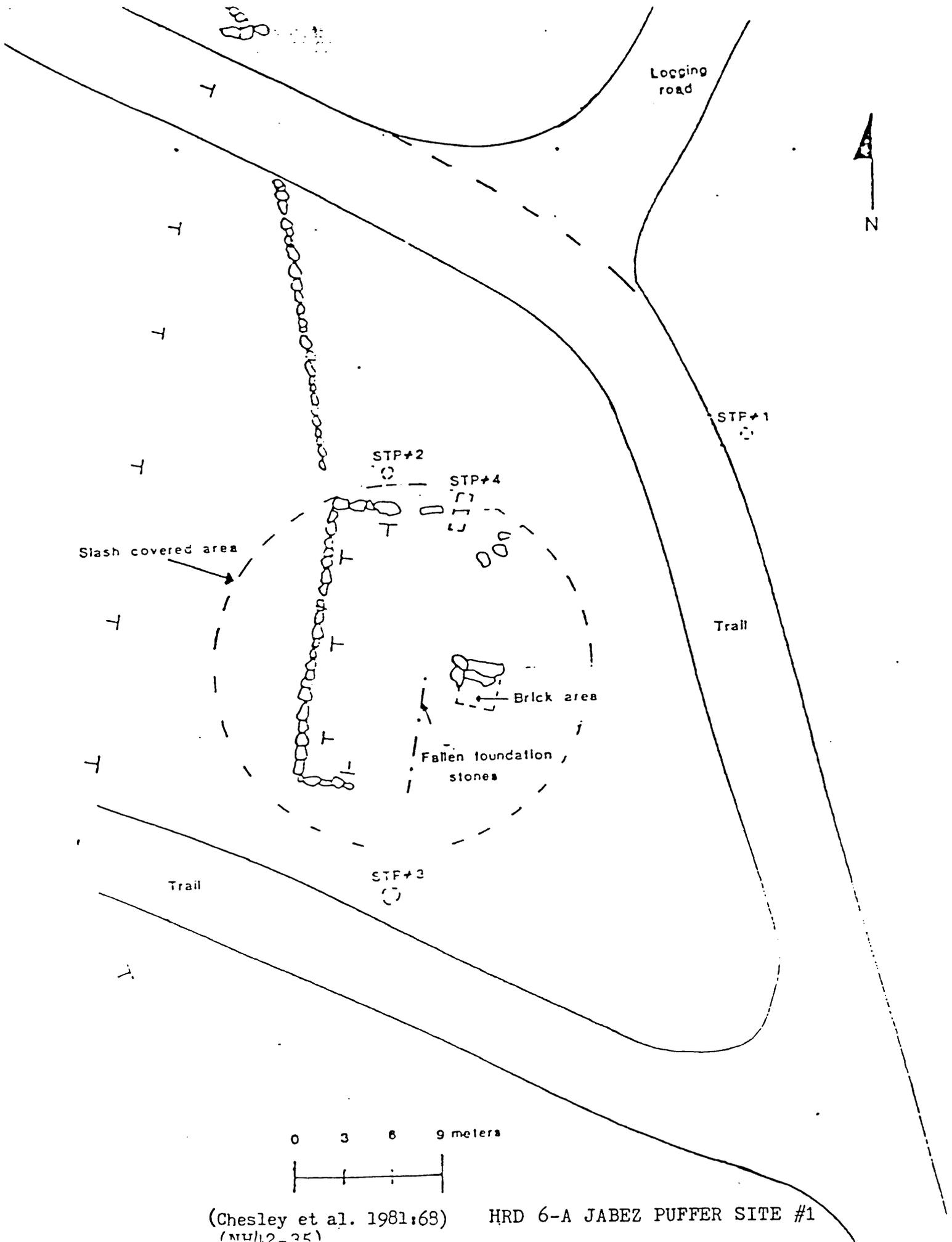


(Chesley et al. 1981:73)

2-A CHARLES TOWNSEND HOMESTEAD

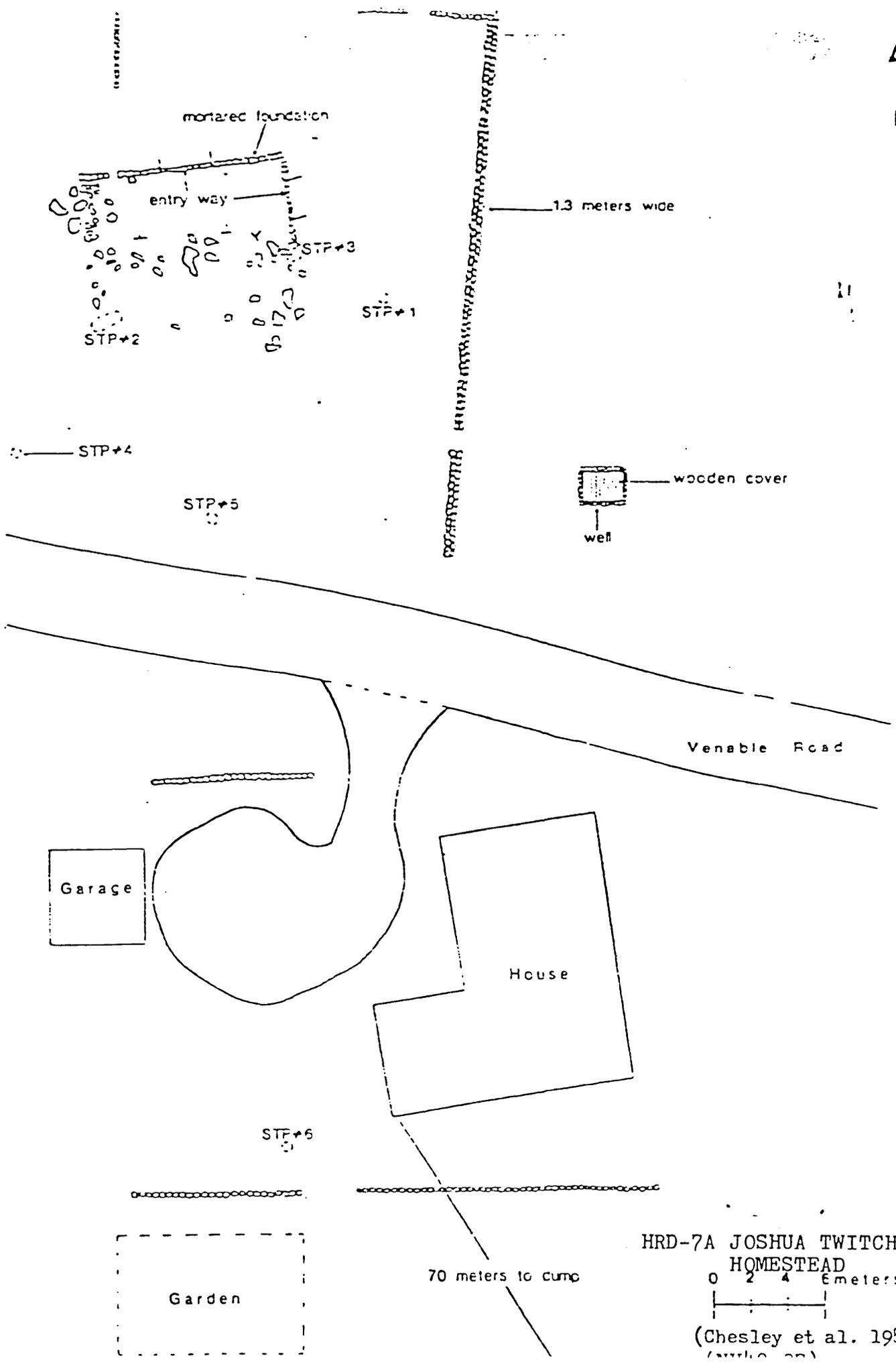


(Chesley et al. 1981) HRD 2-B EBENEZER COBB HOMESTEAD  
(NH 42-34)

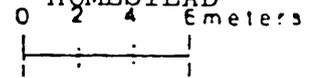


(Chesley et al. 1981:68)  
 (NU/12-25)

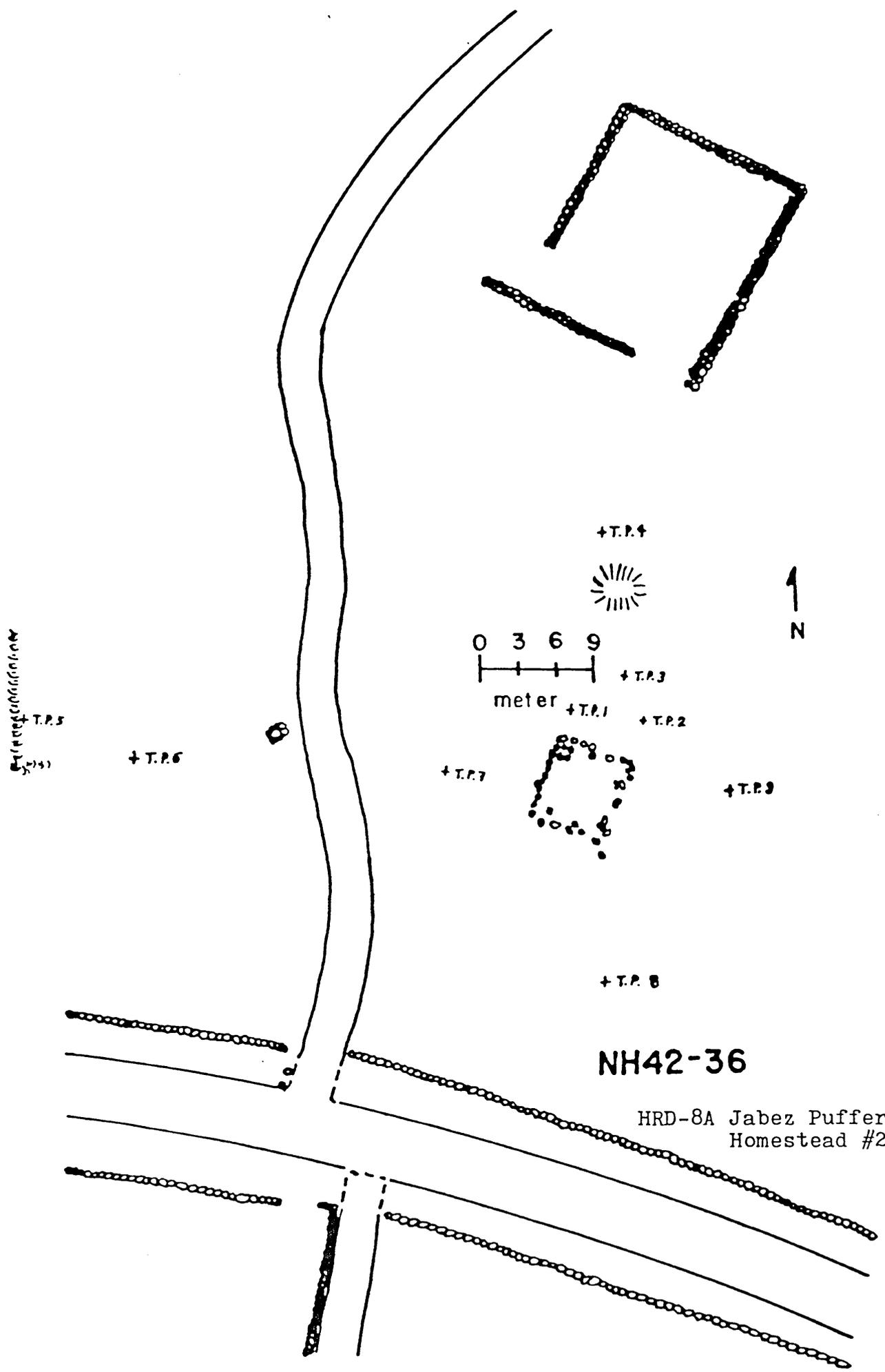
HRD 6-A JABEZ PUFFER SITE #1



HRD-7A JOSHUA TWITCHELL  
HOMESTEAD

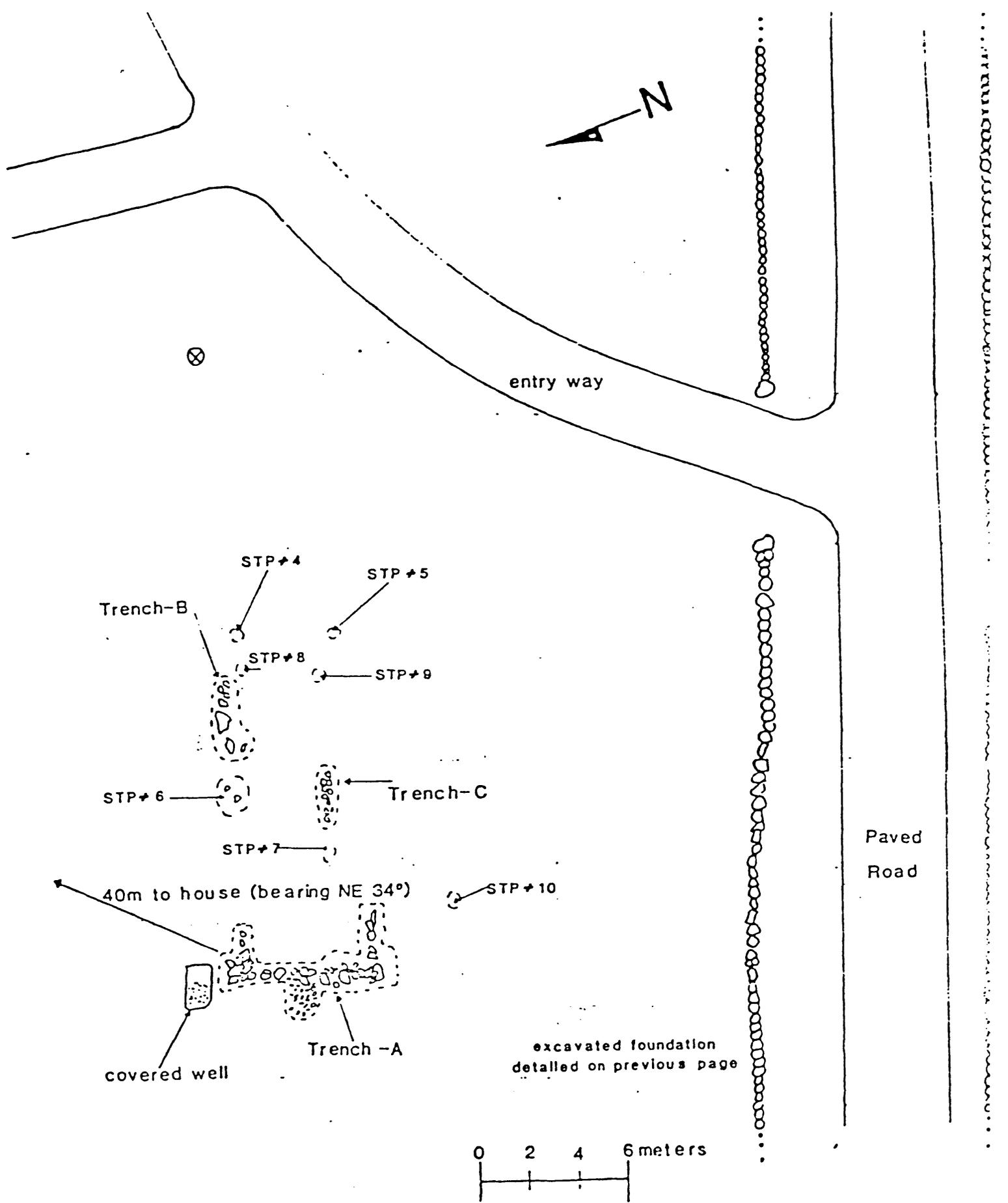


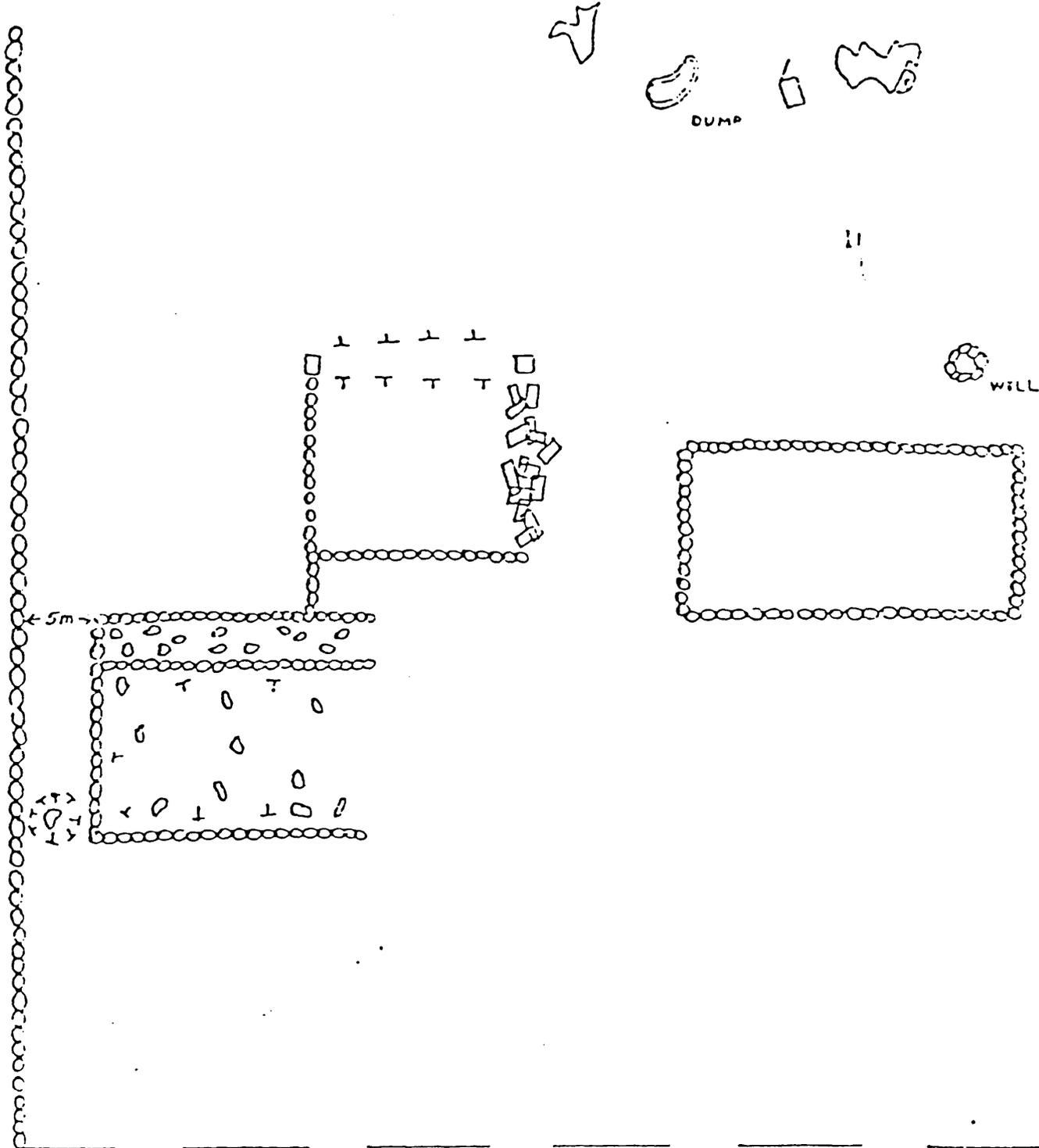
(Chesley et al. 1981:63)  
(with 20)



NH42-36

HRD-8A Jabez Puffer  
Homestead #2





VENABLE ROAD

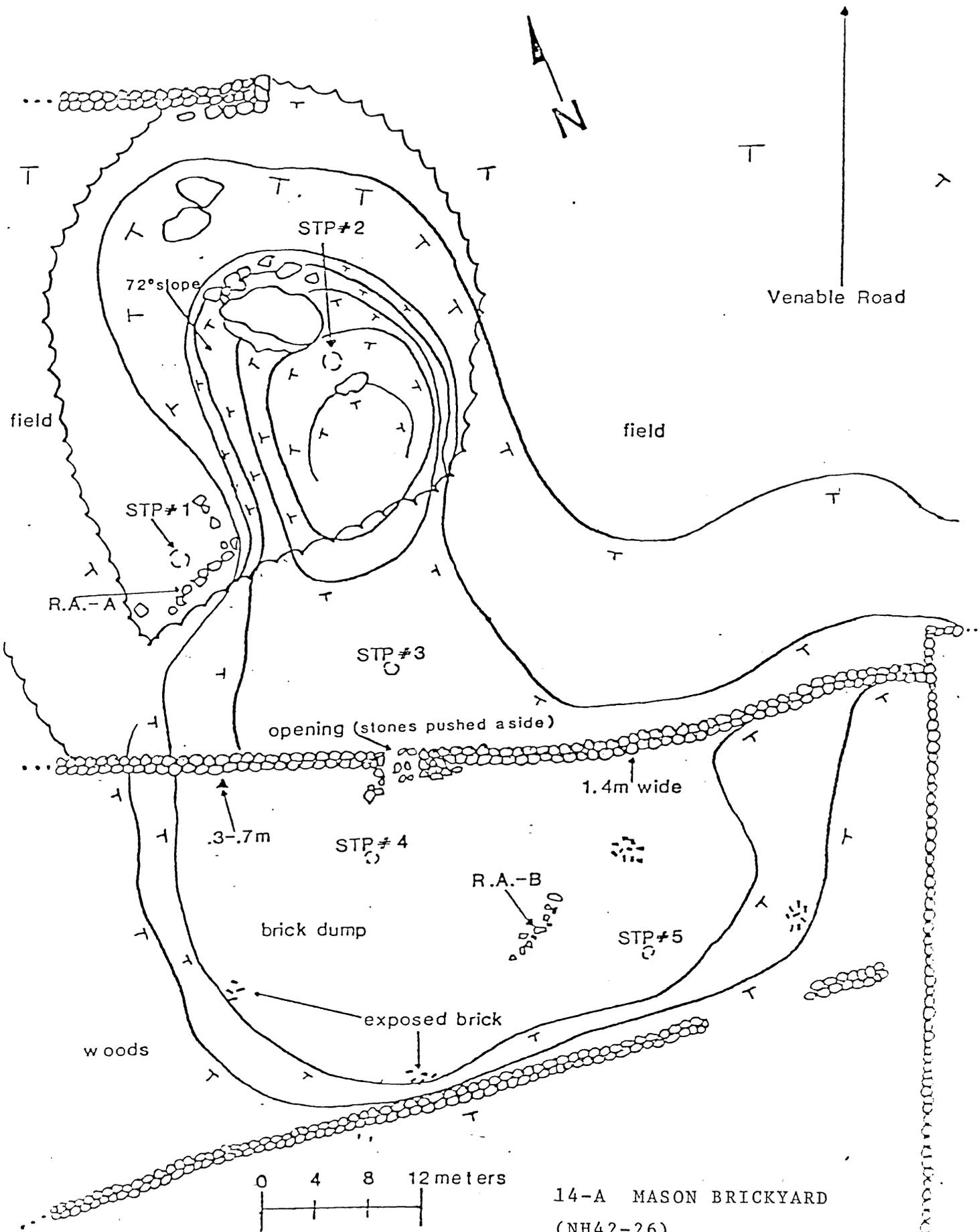
CELLARHOLE COMPLEX

3cm = 6m



(Bolian and Kenyon n.d.)  
(NH42-23)

HRD-11A GERSHOM TWITCHELL  
HOMESTEAD



14-A MASON BRICKYARD  
 (NH42-26)  
 (Chesket et al. 1981:76)

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
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Continuation sheet

Item number    support document    Page 1

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21 July 1986

To whom it may concern:

To the best of my knowledge, the appearance of the buildings shown in the photographs accompanying the National Register application for the Historic Resources of Harrisville, New Hampshire have not changed since the photographs were taken.

*Mary Stewart Meath*  
Mary Meath  
Historic Harrisville, Inc.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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date entered

Continuation sheet

Item numbersupport document

Page 2

21 July 1986

To whom it may concern:

To the best of my knowledge, the names and addresses of the owners of the properties listed in the accompanying National Register application for the Historic Resources of Harrisville, New Hampshire are accurate as of this date.

*Mary Stewart Meath*  
Mary Meath  
Historic Harrisville, Inc.

RESEARCH AT

The HRRISVILLE RURAL DISTRICT: AN ADDENDUM



Dartmouth College HANOVER · NEW HAMPSHIRE · 03755

Department of Anthropology · TEL. (603) 646-3256

Attachment  
"B"

April 6, 1982

Mr. George Gilman, Commissioner  
Department of Resources and Economic Development  
New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Officer  
P.O. Box 856  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Dear Commissioner Gilman:

This report is the completed technical assessment of the proposed Harrisville Rural District and its eligibility for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The critique is based on (1) a review of the proposed nomination of the Harrisville Rural District entitled "The Historic Harrisville Multiple Resource Area," prepared by Historic Harrisville, Inc., (2) assessments of the Harrisville Rural District made by FHWA and NHDPW&H, (3) critiques pertaining to the earlier proposed Harrisville Historic District Extension, (4) a tour through the Harrisville Rural District on March 10, 1982, (5) assessments by solicited scholars and specialists (see appendix), and (6) perusal of relevant scholarly literature concerning the history of the area.

The first section of this report addresses the significance and research potential of the Harrisville Rural District, hereafter referred to as HRD. The second section assesses the integrity of the area, evaluating the physical condition and natural setting of individual historic components and the spatial and visual integrity of the district. This is followed by a discussion of boundaries and intrusions. And the report concludes with a summary statement and additional comments and recommendations.

#### Significance of the Harrisville Rural District

It is quite clear that the Harrisville Rural District has considerable historic value and significance. The wealth of data in the form of documentary, architectural, archaeological and geographical information hold a multitude of insights into late eighteenth- and nineteenth-century northern New England frontier settlement and subsequent social and economic development. The data specifically detailed in the nomination as it now stands and the research potential of the district if it is preserved will give local and regional information on the development of cottage industry, expanded industry, agriculture, building traditions, markets systems, land use, social complexity and value sets.

Whether HRD is evaluated as a rural district or an archaeological district, it is quite evident that the research value of the archaeological data (and I believe the standing structures as well) has not been

Mr. George Gilman, Commissioner  
 New Hampshire State Historic  
 Preservation Officer

April 6, 1982

properly documented. Bruce MacDougal, in his critique for FHWA of the Harrisville Historic District Extension, stressed the need to be explicit about the type of information that can be gained from archaeological sites in the area and for the need to evaluate them under Criterion D: ". . . that have yielded or may be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history." The NHDPW&H and FHWA have reached the following conclusion:

. . . further study is unlikely to add to the sum of man's knowledge of New Hampshire 'hill farms' or more specifically to his knowledge of architectural detail, settlement patterns, diet, etc., of this period in history. There is no reason to believe that additional excavation is going to yield anything more than additional redware, cut nails, bottle fragments, bricks, etc. (Comstock to Shull, February 2, 1982, p. 5).

After studying the relevant scholarly research, I find this conclusion is simply incorrect. The real controversy, therefore, seems to be whether the physical remains of archaeological sites (and structures) contribute to significant economic and social questions of the development of Harrisville and thus make this area worthy of preservation and nomination. The remainder of this section will evaluate the research value of HRD.

#### Social Complexity

What is striking in the useful letters by scholars and the recent literature on early settlement of northern New England is the strong continuity in lineal family units (Handsman, 1981), yet the diversity of occupations (Armstrong, 1969; Gates, 1978; Smith, 1969), often carried on by the same resident unit, together with the increasing variation in ethnic diversity (the Irish and French-Canadians in Harrisville [Armstrong, 1969]). It is essential in interpreting economic and social processes of community development to understand variations in wealth and status through time. Is there variation among farms due to diversity of activities (occupations) carried out by any one farm? Does variation in wealth increase among the farmers as the woolen-mill complex and sheep-raising develops between 1830 and 1860? Or is there greater egalitarianism among the farmers as more benefit from the rise of the local mills, even as the mill-owners achieve higher status? Does the supposed decline in farming after 1870 or so mean reduction in wealth or status, or did substitute occupations such as wood products and maple sugar (Gates, 1978) cause no decline in well-being? These kinds of questions can be evaluated by archaeological excavations: identifications of ratios of fine ceramics, glassware, etc. versus utilitarian artifacts and the variations in size and complexity of farmsteads. This kind of information is simply not detailed in documents.

Mr. George Gilman, Commissioner  
New Hampshire State Historic  
Preservation Officer

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### Land Use

Many variables can affect land utilization and field systems, and many of these variables are not clearly understood for northern New England, let alone Harrisville. The sorting out of the interplay of culture and environment in determining settlement pattern in Harrisville and other areas is a major research problem. The expanses of land, trees, walls, and original roads in HRD are important for answering these questions and should not be regarded simply as buffer zones or empty acreage.

The strong cultural variables affecting land use are implied from recent studies and can be applied to the Harrisville area. McHenry (1978) has shown that survey records, ground inspection and aerial photos reflect the field systems of different ethnic groups in Vermont: French-Canadian, Dutch and Yankee (subdivided into groups from Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Connecticut). In spite of dominant forest cover, McHenry could isolate patches of fields, farmsteads, roads and tree lines associated with early settlements. Yankees tend toward small consolidated fields, and French-Canadians to "extensive consolidation and systematic removal of tree lines" (McHenry, 1978:14). One wonders whether the French-Canadian family (h14) in Rural Harrisville exhibits this basic cultural difference in land use.

Studies done by Handsman (1981) for Goshen, Connecticut, show that even though the gridded range and lot systems favored decentralized land holdings, subsequent land subdivisions show that "economics was a matter of kinship" (1981:56). As familial units bought adjacent tracts, land holdings for a family could become consolidated and these holdings passed on to a network of kin, both consanguine and by marriage. This occurs in HRD as families buy adjacent tracts to increase lot size and pass land down to sons and married kin. Yet there are many questions which have not been answered. How long did familial structure determine settlement and land transactions? Why are there leasings and tenant occupants in HRD (H6, h22)? Did this passing on to kin cease (and population decline) as land values began to rise (Easterlin, 1976)? As taxes increased (documentary records), was there increasing frugality and an increase in farm activities (archaeological record) to offset tax increases?

The combination of both field and documentary data is important in determining the economic and environmental variables that affected land use. Hamburg's Ph.D. dissertation (Waldbauer, p.c.) involves the investigation of farmsteads in Compton, New Hampshire, where he is refining techniques to show that stratigraphy and plow marks can determine intensity of cultivation. In addition, reforestation has not necessarily obliterated field systems, but holds the key to determining sequence of field abandonment (Waldbauer, letter and p.c.). Even with land

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consolidations, the farmsteads of HRD still remain dispersed. Why are they situated where they are? What is the carrying capacity of these field systems for pasturage and various crops? Do field systems increase in size with the development of the mill, with expanded market systems, or do they stabilize in size?

### Building Traditions

Building traditions are a third category for investigation of both economic and cultural value systems of nineteenth-century Harrisville. Extended farmhouse groups of northern New England are a "distinct American development of the mid-nineteenth century" (Hubka, 1977:89). Hubka (1977) shows that clusters of buildings in Maine become fully connected between 1830 and 1860 and are the product of incremental growth of traditions of reuse, remodeling and relocating, and cease being built circa 1910. The early clustering of buildings reflects the diversity of activities carried out by farmers. In time, the admonishments of farm journals to build more scientifically satisfactory barns that were larger, more securely built and with full cellars, together with the increasing formality of the Federal style, caused a staggered alignment of barns and sheds behind and connected to the main house. The popular notion that farms became connected in order to more easily care for animals during severe winters does not seem to be a cause for connected buildings. There are many areas of the world that have severe winters which do not have extended dwellings (Hubka, 1977:114). Both standing structures and excavation of archaeological foundations can be used to test Hubka's model. Indeed, as Waldbauer (p.c.) points out, one of the values of the district is the standing structures to complement archaeological data. There are examples in the district which are not fully connected. Why is this so?

For many frontier areas from the Ozarks (Price and Price, 1977) to New England, the full range of farming activities (in spite of documentary records) is still unknown and the spatial requirements for family living activities and farm use unexplored. The excavation of farmsteads can flesh out the diversity and spatial arrangement of these activities and shifts in size of living space. Ethnobotanical and zoological information dealing with variations of wild versus domestic items and specie variation has yet to be done.

### Market Systems

A fourth category of investigation is the examination of how well integrated into the local and regional market systems was the agricultural population of Harrisville? The literature indicates that potash, homespun cloth, wood and pottery were important cash subsidies to farmers (Armstrong, 1969; Rosenberg, 1981; Smith (1969). Storekeepers

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managed the transactions of the farmers, extending them credit in return for their goods (Smith, 1969:4). As roads improved, animal drives to Brighton, Massachusetts, and in the winter sleighs loaded with lumber made their way to markets. By 1836 sections of New Hampshire (the Merrimac River) were no longer self-sufficient in food production (Smith, 1969:5), and there were increasing opportunities for exchange in markets. Private merchants in Boston and Portsmouth financed new roads to draw the "country trade" (Smith, 1969:9).

In the HRD three storekeepers are involved in land acquisition and as agents of the mills. Archaeological excavations would indicate what household and farm items were reaching Harrisville from wider market areas. What economic and cultural variables allowed access to market items? Is increased integration into the market system due to land restraints and/or market restraints, or is increased integration due to the opportunities of growing markets, indicating a more progressive rather than conservative farm value than formerly thought (Wines, 1981)?

#### Integrity of the Harrisville Rural District

The historic value and research potential of HRD relies on the quality of the physical condition of structures and sites and the degree to which the natural setting and spatial relationships reflect the period of significance. This section will first evaluate the physical integrity of the historic components, the lack of compactness and low density of structures, and the visual cohesion of the district.

#### Individual Integrity of Historic Components

All of the archaeological sites nominated for the rural district have integrity (except h17; see below). They are undisturbed, and even those that have not been test-pitted, such as Puffer h15, have mapped foundations and their very remoteness indicates they have suffered little impact. The archaeological and historical integrity have already been evaluated in the section on significance, in which I concluded that they have considerable merit for yielding new and important information on both local and regional social and economic processes.

I do not concur with NHDPW&H that historic structures H3, H6, H8 and H9 do not have integrity. Reuse, remodeling and relocation was simply part of the building tradition of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries (Hubka, 1977). While one certainly does not want to exploit that fact to gain nomination status, the addition of dormers during the nineteenth century to H6 (Jonathan Morse farmstead), the relocation of H3 before 1800 to its present location, and its extension during the nineteenth century is what one expects of vernacular architecture in this area, and it is extremely important to have examples of this process.

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New Hampshire State Historic  
Preservation Officer

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These buildings are all useful examples of early farming architecture, good illustrations of the incremental growth, and beneficial data in interpreting the archaeological record.

H7-h17 is actually a conforming intrusion and will be dealt with in that section. All other historic structures have architectural integrity (see Monahan, Waldbauer, and Faulkner letters).

The switching of names and numbers of sites and structures should be corrected. It is extremely confusing to evaluate these documents with such inconsistencies.

#### Integrity of Spatial Relationships

One of the major criticisms of the proposed district is the wide spatial distribution of the historic components (Bruce MacDougal, Keeper of the Register; NHDPW&H). In reviewing the research on late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century farmstead settlement patterns, the literature indicates dispersed settlements were the norm in northern New England.

The compact, nucleated settlement was the initial phase of settlement in southern New England and portions of the coast due to the type of proprietor system. This system established a compact center village with contiguous house lots straddling a central street (Handsman, 1981: 21; McManis, 1975:53-63). Farming and land resource holdings were distributed around the center and throughout the township. However, as the frontier moved north and west, a new proprietor system developed which arranged lots in a grid pattern, the familiar range and lot system of which HRD is a part. A "decentralized patterning was followed by the growth and development of nucleated settlements" (Handsman, 1981:22). Thus, as the frontier shifted, the settlement pattern was one of dispersed settlements followed by nucleated settlement.

Dick Waldbauer (p.c.) points out that frequently initial compact settlements reverted to a dispersed pattern because of land use requirements. The Sandwich Notch area, with which Waldbauer is familiar, is a dispersed pattern with occasional clusters of two or three houses. The farmstead dispersal patterns were probably variable and functioned according to factors of wood, farm and pasture lots, wealth, family size, regional population and proprietor system.

The 1,400 acres included in the HRD is indeed a large area. But how large is large in rural preservation? As Tishler (1980:25-31) points out, rural preservation may require preserving larger blocks of landscape, both manmade and natural, where lower density of structures is to be expected. The rural vernacular and folk resources will often be expressed by a low density of components spread over large areas.

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New Hampshire State Historic  
Preservation Officer

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HRD is a large area, but I do not concur that wide spacing, lack of concentration and low density of historic components detracts from the integrity of the nomination. This spacing simply mirrors the historic settlement pattern of the area and is one of the reasons it has historic integrity.

### Visual Integrity

The HRD is heavily wooded and does not at this time reflect the predominantly cleared nineteenth-century landscape. The area today is approximately 85-90 percent forested; whereas if one converts to percentages the improved and non-improved acreage cited in the nomination for various farmsteads, the forest cover was approximately 25-30 percent for the decades 1850 to 1880.

The main point to be made is that the visual landscape changed through time. It was heavily forested in the late eighteenth century. It was gradually cleared and by the end of the nineteenth century some of the abandoned farms began to revert to woodland cover again. It is evident that woodlots and regenerated forests from abandoned farms were as important as farm and pasture acreage for many farmers.

Economic and social processes affecting the landscape both then and now are relevant in interpreting the visual integrity of the natural setting:

The predominance of the agricultural section in the nineteenth century, and the abundant endowment of natural resources more generally, served to shape the American environment in numerous ways which made it more receptive to the American system of manufactures (Rosenberg, 1981:53).

America's early world leadership in the development of specialized woodworking machinery--machines for sawing, planing, mortising, tenoning, shaping, and boring--was a consequence of an immense abundance of forest products. Although these machines were wasteful of wood, that was of little consequence in a country where wood was cheap. The substitution of abundant wood for scarce labor was, in fact, highly rational (Rosenberg, 1981:55).

Since 1749, when the Mason deed of the grant was signed, all white pine fit for masting his majesty's Royal Navy was to be reserved for the King of England (Gates, 1978:5; Leonard and Steward, 1920:30). Potash was early on an important cash crop for the frontier (Armstrong, 1969:6) and Keene supported a potash facility (Smith, 1969:4, 16). Many raw materials were handled by storekeepers and, as has been already mentioned, may be the reason for the active interest in land acquisition for the three storekeepers in HRD.

Mr. George Gilman, Commissioner  
New Hampshire State Historic  
Preservation Officer

April 6, 1982

Sawmills were the first industries in the area and continued into the twentieth century. Abel Twitchell, whose family settled in HRD, started one of the first sawmills on Goose Brook (Armstrong, 1969:2). Moses Twitchell, who lived at h14 from 1826 to 1873, operated a sawmill at h2 (not in HRD). After his death, the lot was purchased by Zopar Willard, a clothespin manufacturer. The Thaddeus T. Mason sawmill was also established on Goose Brook and eventually became the Winn Brothers Chair Factory. The Joshua Greenwood Mill was established in 1790 on the eastern outlet of Lake Skatutakee and continued operating until well into the twentieth century. Alexander Emes, who lived at h18 and died in 1843, "was tied in with this sawmill" (h19--Ebenezer Cobb Homestead, p. 14).

After the Civil War wood became an increasingly important source of income in Gilsum in Cheshire County (Gates, 1978:22). Bark from hemlock could be used by the tanneries. Fuelwood was needed by the mills (several transactions listed in the nominations) and was used to heat homes and public buildings in Keene (Gates, 1978:22), as well as being essential to farmers for boiling down maple sap into sugar. As farming began to decline, wood and maple sugar became important cash crops for surviving farmers in Gilsum, New Hampshire (Gates, 1978), and may have been equally important in HRD.

This process of clearing away the forests is again underway. There is increasing farming and sheep-raising in the area, both within HRD and in the region. Farmers are clearing out old fields which have grown into woodlots and the wood is being sold for furniture manufacture (ash for baskets and caning), lumber for houses (white pine, spruce, fir) and cordwood to heat homes (birch, maple, ash). The Colony's, who own the Joshua Twitchell property (h14), are selling wood as a cash crop. GMF sold \$7,000 worth of cordwood last year in the process of clearing ten acres of land (Dan Burnham, p.c.).

A recent study by the Antioch/New England Graduate School entitled "Tri-State Region Fuelwood Resources" (Kahn, 1980) indicates that by the year 2000, if present zoning and planning patterns continue, the landscape in the Monadnock region will be denuded. This would be due to new forest products industries and the demand for fuel. In fact, the impact of these factors on the landscape is presently noted, and considerable impact will be felt within the next two to twenty years. Thus, during the last two hundred years the Monadnock region has gone through a cyclical process of forestation and clearance, and the clearance process is now underway again, soon to uncover the clearer vistas of one hundred years ago--that is, if commercialization does not destroy the character of traditional New England altogether.

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And lastly, it should be emphasized again, that the forests hold potential research value. Data from these resources should be collected before any further clearing occurs (Waldbauer, p.c.).

### Boundaries and Intrusions

I see no major problems with the proposed boundaries of HRD. The northern 1,400-foot contour line is a reasonable boundary that encompasses the historic components and avoids the unproductive steep northern slopes leading to the lake. The other boundaries are in accordance with the historic range and lot proprietor system, often marked by remaining stone walls, and thus it is in accordance with the historic layout of the area. I do not have the legal expertise to judge whether boundaries should be aligned according to contemporary property boundaries.

Historic Harrisville has raised a question concerning the boundary of the southeastern section of HRD: should Lot 12, Range VIII, be carved out of HRD and become a part of the Beech Hill Summer Home District? The question centers around the fact that the Reuben Morse (h12) archaeological site and Sky Field summer cottage are within this area and, in fact, are part of the same locality. After weighing the Historic Preservation guidelines and criteria, it seems that the value and success of district nominations lies with clear and consistent definitions of historic importance. The major historic significance of HRD is the agricultural life, cottage industry, and vernacular architecture of late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century Harrisville. Even though farming was a major activity at Sky Field, this mansion represents the high-style architecture and different social component of the summer "cottage" phase in the latter part of the nineteenth century. I think it would be best to include Lot 12, Range VIII, with the Beech Hill Summer Cottage District and to make h12 an individual nomination.

The classification of eleven intrusions categorized by Historic Harrisville seems to me to be satisfactory. As Historic Harrisville has noted, H4, 4A, 4B, H20, 20A, H14, and H15, with its six out-buildings, would be intrusions excluded from the HRD, if Lot 12, Range VIII, is eliminated from HRD. However, whatever the Keeper's decision, I think it important to point out that, after driving through the district, whether one lists twenty-three intrusions (as does NHDPW&H), eleven intrusions (as does Historic Harrisville), or seven intrusions (if Lot 12, Range VIII, is exempted from the HRD), all are unobtrusive, sometimes remote, all private residences, sheds, and barns, and not glaring commercial or architectural distractions. That is, they blend in with the rural theme.

Mr. George Gilman, Commissioner  
New Hampshire State Historic  
Preservation Officer

April 6, 1982

### Summary and Recommendations

After careful review of the proposed Harrisville Rural District, I find the district meets all basic criteria for nomination to the National Register for Historic Places. This must be qualified, of course, by the problem of visual integrity of the area; it is presently a heavily wooded area. However, I have tried to provide for you and the Keeper various factors which should be weighed in that assessment: the area was not predominantly cleared throughout the entire period of historic significance, deforestation is again underway (and for the very same reasons it occurred in the nineteenth century), and those woods and trees have research value.

The following are a few suggestions and comments:

1. The statements of description and significance of the nomination, while full of important information, need reworking. They require editing and a clearer explanation of research value. A more complete bibliography needs to be provided.
2. There seems to be justification for extending the period of significance into the twentieth century (see Armstrong, p.c.). The cutoff of 1880 was apparently only made because census data were difficult to acquire at the time the archival work was done for the nomination.
3. I am not familiar with all of the evaluation procedures of the National Register. However, I found the letters of the various scholars and specialists to be extremely valuable for the variety of useful insights and information. They are important documents in their own right, containing many points not addressed by this assessment, and should be considered a section of this report rather than just an appendix.
4. Efficient highway systems are an important part of the successful development of the fast-growing Monadnock region. However, they frequently bring with them "strip" development and often impact on fragile historic resources. It is simply cost effective to protect and develop an investment which the National Register has already made--the mills of the Harrisville National Landmark. By nominating the Harrisville Rural District to the National Register, the development of the Harrisville woolen-mill industry can be satisfactorily explored and the fabric of community and regional life properly documented.

There are many complex issues in evaluating a nomination for the National Register. If there are points addressed here that need clarification or additional information that needs to be further addressed,

Mr. George Gilman, Commissioner  
New Hampshire State Historic  
Preservation Officer

April 6, 1982

I will be happy to respond further about this district proposal. I can be reached at the above address or can be telephoned at (603) 646-2049.

Sincerely yours,



Barbara A. McMillan  
Assistant Professor of  
Anthropology

BAM:dh

cc: Carol Shull  
Patrick Andrus



# Boston University

College of Liberal Arts  
226 Bay State Road  
Boston, Massachusetts 02215

Department of History

Attachment  
"C"

21 February 1982

Dr. Barbara McMillan  
Department of Anthropology  
Dartmouth College  
Hanover, N.H., 03755

Dear Dr. McMillan:

Mr. Daniel Burnham has asked me to write you with my comments on his draft Multiple Resource Area nomination for a Harrisville Rural District, in connection with your review for the New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Officer. I am sorry to have been so slow about it, and hope my comments will still be helpful.

Concerning the draft nomination itself, I am impressed with the amount of specific information on the proposed district that has been assembled. I consider the draft to be in rough form and incomplete. I am not familiar with the guidelines for the nomination process, except for the correspondence Dan has sent me, but I know I would have difficulty understanding the application if I were to read it as an uninformed outsider. It lacks an adequate introduction and bibliography, and any explanation of a research program and how it might be accomplished.

Concerning the desirability of establishing a Harrisville Rural District, however, I have no misgivings. Twenty-five years ago, when I began my efforts to understand and interpret the town of Harrisville and its mill village as a remarkable survivor of America's early industrial age, I believe I would have given my eye teeth for the information in the draft nomination. In my work on Harrisville, I sought to place the development of the mill village in the perspective of its rural, agricultural origins and setting, and I believe I did so with some success. But, to have had at my disposal the facts and research leads and methodology in this nomination alone would have enormously enriched my research and writing.

Aside from my own work, however, I find the idea of creating a Harrisville Rural District an exciting prospect, particularly so because it would exist alongside the National Historic Landmark district of the mill village. Then there would be, in their original setting with a high degree of historical continuity and excellent prospects for further research, very much what Old Sturbridge Village has been trying unsuccessfully to re-create for a number of years. Yet, as I understand it, it would be in the mode set by Historic Harrisville, Inc., not a museum, but an integral, working part of the town and its economy.

I should like to comment on several details of the draft nomination. Concerning the boundaries, it cannot be maintained that the roots of the mill village extended only to the south, that is, toward Beech Hill. Nearly half the eighteenth century settlers in the area of Harrisville whom I succeeded in tracing, lived on the northern or Nelson side of the later mill village, including members of both the Twitchell and Harris families. Nonetheless, I believe that, for the most part, the boundaries of the proposed district make sense in that the area has a geographical identity and, allowing for the better soils there, would be representative of the eighteenth century settlement. However, I have some question about the wisdom of excluding the shores of Lake Skatutakee with its summer cottages, for reasons I shall explain.

Secondly, several of the descriptions of property in the draft nomination note there is no known connection between the farm property and the Harrisville mills. Given the almost total lack of surviving Harris family mill records before 1860, that is not remarkable. The Cheshire Mills records, which begin in the 1850s, document the connection of a number of the properties, even in a period of declining agriculture. I have always hoped that increased recognition of Harrisville's significance might bring to light some of those earlier records. If they were to appear, I feel sure that they would further show the interrelationship. However, I wonder just what degree of interdependency it is now necessary to demonstrate in order to justify a Rural District. It is clear that there was an interdependency, from the eighteenth century to the twentieth. In time, it would be the object of a research program to determine the changing nature of that relationship.

Thirdly, I am puzzled by the proposed cut-off date of 1880, and do not believe it is justified. According to my research, in 1880 there were still fifty-eight farms in Harrisville and, aside from textile mill employment, farmers constituted the most numerous occupational group in town, accounting for nearly a quarter of the work force. Some of these lived in the area of the proposed Rural District. Furthermore, I believe such a district should also be concerned with the summer residents who took over so many of the farms, and these people were just beginning to appear in 1880. I would recommend extending the terminal date to 1900 or 1920.

Finally, I would like to comment briefly on how a research program might be conducted for the Rural District, even though the draft nomination does not take up this subject. The main point, I believe, is that the creation of a Harrisville Rural District would allow researchers in a range of disciplines to

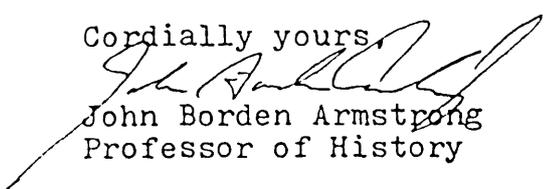
to study, on the site, the relationships between mill farms, cottage industry, industrialization, changing populations, and the beginnings of a summer tourist industry, all of which were part of the response of people to the challenge of the environment in what Arnold Toynbee called "the land of optimum challenge." I would hope and expect that any research program would also include work in other rural areas around the mill village. But, even in the Rural District proposed, we can see evidence of the several stages of response, beyond that of the so-called subsistence farm: 1/ cottage industry (Hershom Twitchell, Townsend Farm, Ebenezer Cobb homestead, and the Abijah Twitchell homestead); 2/ the immigrant arrival (C. A. Milliken and the Puffer homestead #2; Augustus LaPoint in the Joshua Twitchell homestead); 3/ summer tourists (the Reuben Morse homestead). In this connection, beyond the boundaries of the proposed Rural District, I would call attention to the proposed Beech Hill Summer Home District, and the summer cottages on Lake Skatutakee, some of which may well date from the 1880s.

In printed sources, it would seem that in the preparation of the draft application that the recently published volume, New Hampshire: A Bibliography of Its History (Boston: G. K. Hall & Co., 1979), was not consulted. Yet, it cites numerous published writings on New Hampshire agriculture, farm life, and archeology that could be helpful. Another important source that seems to have been ignored is the 1900 Federal Census, which is at long last open to the public.

I cannot at this time foresee the shape of a research program on the Harrisville Rural District, but it would seem reasonable to expect that Historic Harrisville, Inc., with its record in preserving the mill village, would be a logical and desirable base for conducting or overseeing any research program on the Harrisville Rural District. Certainly the results of such a research program should be of more than narrow historical interest. With the many current advocates of and proposals for local or regional economic self-sufficiency, it would seem timely to have fresh research into what such self-sufficiency has entailed in the past.

If you have any questions about my comments, or wish any further comment, I should be happy to oblige. Because I am on leave from the University this academic year, I can most easily be reached at home. My address is 214 South Street, Hingham, Massachusetts, 02043. My telephone number is 617/749-1750.

Cordially yours,

  
John Borden Armstrong  
Professor of History

cc: Daniel Burnham


 UNIVERSITY OF MAINE ATTORNEYS

Department of Anthropology

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

Stevens Hall, South  
Orono, Maine 04469  
207/531-7192

Feb. 8, 1982

Dr. Barbara McMillan  
Department of Anthropology  
Dartmouth College  
Hanover, N.H. 03755

Dear Dr. McMillan:

I have just received from the New Hampshire SHPO's office a copy of Mr. Burnham's nomination to the National Register of "The Historic Harrisville Multiple Resource Area," together with a request for comment. I gather I am to respond to you on the historic archaeological merits of one of the two districts included in the nomination, "The Harrisville Rural District," which is comprised of several former hill farms on Beech Hill Ridge.

Although I speak here only as an historical archaeologist, you must understand that I am not a disinterested party in either the archaeology of the area or in the controversy concerning the routing of the 101 by-pass which originally spurred this nomination. I am a native of Dublin with many personal ties to Harrisville as well. Moreover the family names "Taggard," "Appleton," "Mason," and others which appear as former property owners in the district are those of my Dublin ancestors. I too was born on a working hill farm in Dublin (not in the district), and so am naturally interested in the rural history of the area. Yet I have a professional interest in the region as well. In 1976 I excavated the Leander Felt site in Nelson, New Hampshire, just to the north of Harrisville, and at that site uncovered the homestead and brickyard where bricks were made for the construction of the first Cheshire Mills buildings (then Faulkner and Colony Mills—the other side of the family!) in Harrisville. I guess then, that if anyone is likely to have an interest in the historic archaeology of the area, it is I.

Burnham's extracts from the ARS report on the district clearly show the tremendous wealth of historic documentation available for these properties. Agricultural census data, deeds, and probate records are available for most of the fourteen farms mentioned, and greatly supplement the secondary sources such as the History of Dublin. Although I am not at all impressed by the quality of recording done by ARS in presenting the structural remains of the archaeological sites within the district (or, for that matter, with their testing procedure), it is apparent that the archaeological record is well preserved. I have personal knowledge of some of these sites, and can testify that they do indeed survive intact or nearly so, and should provide a valuable record of late 18th century-early 19th century hill farming settlement. Regional patterns of land use and of building traditions can certainly be studied through archaeological investigation of this area, and I am keenly interested that this be done, as this is a field of great archaeological concern in northern New England. The district is topographically and historically an integrated unit of farmsteads operated by closely inter-related families, and continues to be used today in somewhat the same way as it has in the past.

It is this combination of factors which, I think, justifies our singling out this particular district for nomination to the register, rather than just any hillside aggregate of cellarholes. It truly has the potential of an open-air laboratory for the study of rural development (or lack of same, to be more precise) in this region.

Of some special interest, among the six houses and eight cellarholes remaining, is the Jonathan Adams homestead, which, as I understand, is a 2/3 vernacular (Federalish) cape, essentially unmodified, and standing in disrepair. Whether or not this building is actually ever restored, it is a most valuable asset to the district, illustrating the presumed form of many of the original farmhouses. While the rambling farms of later "connecting architecture" abound in the area with a big house-little house-back house-barn regularity which is almost monotonous, the architecture of the initial structure is rarely available for detailed inspection. Here it survives in context, with the settlement refuse distributed as it would have been when the house was first built. It remains a key for understanding the archaeological data available from excavation of the archaeological sites in the district.

The integrity of the area suggests that it should be the focus of archaeological and historical examination in the near future. I, for one, am deterred only by my current obligations to archaeological projects in Maine. Finally, I hasten to support the addition of the various saw mills and related structures from "Mosquitoville" (Skeeterbush) which are an integral part of the watercourse used by the Harrisville mills. They certainly are important components to the archaeology of this historic area, and deserve protection. The same can be said of the chair factories on Goose Brook, and perhaps other sites near the outlet of Skatutakee.

Sincerely,



Alaric Faulkner  
Historic Archaeologist  
Assoc. Prof. of Anthropology

cc: Gary Hume

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**MATERIAL CULTURE AND  
AGRICULTURAL HISTORY STUDIES IN NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Richard C. Waldbauer (*Brown University/White Mountain NF*)  
(*paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology, Boston, Mass.--January 12, 1985*)

It is no accident that historical archaeology as we practice it is a sub-discipline of anthropology. We have a common concern for understanding culture, and the hundred-year struggle with the concept of culture is what identifies anthropology as the social science devoted to generalized study of humans. Currently, other disciplines in social science and the humanities are turning to anthropological definitions of culture. This is because we have come to realize that regardless of one's specialized interest in social phenomena, interaction occurs in a context. Context is not a mere backdrop, but a set of complex elements that is fundamental to social interaction. Analysis based on a concept of culture permits an understanding of context to be incorporated into explanations of social phenomena.

Interpretation of social history is especially benefitting from the use of definitions of culture. Agricultural historians have known for a long time that prior to the growth of urban life there were fundamental changes in rural life. Much of the current research has keyed on the Industrial Revolution to show not the decline of agriculture but how the agricultural economy conditioned industrial development. One of the most important issues concerns explanations for the shift from small-scale, diversified production to extensive monoculture during the mid-19th century. It is no longer appropriate to limit our understanding of this phenomenon to rationalizing profit and loss in sales of farm surpluses. The social relationships of farm families were changing along with the way they farmed their lands. By using a cultural perspective, it has become possible to explain these changes to account for economic factors as just one aspect of rural life.

Historical archaeology will play a central role in the interpretation of agricultural history because the central feature of rural life is the transformation of the landscape. Farmstead sites and their associated landuse patterns represent the effects of agricultural strategies pursued in the past. Since those strategies were based on geographical and social factors as well as economic ones, the material culture perspective of historical archaeology is necessary.

In New Hampshire, three major efforts in material culture studies are aimed at interpreting agricultural history. They are the New Hampshire Farm Museum in Milton, the Harrisville Rural District as part of Historic Harrisville, Inc., and the Hill Farm Project of the White Mountain National Forest. Each is based on a different aspect of the context of farms, each provides a different cultural perspective of rural life, and each utilizes archaeology to establish cultural context.

The New Hampshire Farm Museum is a living history farm that was started by people concerned with the preservation of traditional rural life. Its programs are conducted primarily by member volunteers who perceive farms as places where farming was done, rather than as locations for curious artifacts. As a traditional museum, object collections are sought, assembled, maintained, and interpreted. However, the problem of preserving rural life requires a new interpretation of museum efforts. The ongoing practice of farming techniques in the context of an individual farm not only preserves these activities, but also provides a basis for researching traditional agricultural strategies. As such, the museum's main focus is on its variety of summer thematic Farm Days.

Started in 1968, the New Hampshire Farm Museum is located on the historic Jones Farm that dates from the late 18th century. The collections and program policies are oriented toward the post-Civil War history of the farm, which represents the peak and decline of agricultural activity. The museum operates on thirty acres, centered on its well-preserved complex of connected farm buildings; though by the 1850s, the Jones family was farming 700 acres in diversified production of livestock, wool, dairy goods, wheat, corn, oats, fodder, and maple sugar. It is appropriate for the museum to preserve the full range of rural life since in addition to the volume and variety of agricultural pursuits, the farm served for a time as a well-known public tavern and inn.

The annual summer program of Farm Days features exhibitions and demonstrations conducted within the context of an individual farm. These include days devoted to spinning, weaving, woodworking, ice-making, blacksmithing, rocksplitting, and timber framing as well as basic agricultural and forestry practices. The summer program also incorporates a Farm Day held at Robert Bristol's Muster Field Farm in North Sutton, near the Sunapee Mountains between Concord and Lebanon. In the past two years, that day had themes of the military muster and animal power.

One of the museum's most ambitious programs occurred in 1983 when several 5-day workshops on New Hampshire's rural past were offered as a Youth Project, sponsored in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Students were given an intensive experience in New Hampshire agricultural history, traditional farmstead skills and arts, community life, environmental conditions and a concluding introduction to farmsite archaeology through excavations of foundations and dumps. During each session, the participants also collaborated to write research pieces, collect oral histories, and videotape demonstrations of cultivation using draft animals.

On the surface these activities appear similar to other living history museums with the goal of bringing to life traditional arts and crafts. The New Hampshire Farm Museum, however, has made human resources its focus. Not only are the collections and program policies based upon the museum's objective to "do" traditional agriculture, but it has also specifically obligated itself to record those activities. Its curatorial efforts must include the audio-visual documentation of farm life. The museum has thus redefined its role from that of a traditional repository for the specimens and artifacts of natural and cultural history to a research center for historical process found in the rural way of life. To be able to accomplish its programs, the museum must utilize people skilled in historical agriculture and then document their contributions for future researchers.

Historical archaeologists conducting work at the New Hampshire Farm Museum would be entering a laboratory in which to investigate the context of an individual farmstead. There is, of course, considerable excavation potential in the Jones Farm itself. That may not be its greatest research value, however. Instead, its importance as a facility for experimental archaeology stands forth. Problems about land clearing, a day's plowing, harvesting, domestic chores, and tool use can be explored in a controlled setting with people skilled in accomplishing these specific tasks. No systematic understanding of one of our most cherished rural myths, the subsistence farm, will be complete until there is quantitative as well as qualitative evaluation of these problems.

The second major effort is the creation of the historic rural district of Harrisville, New Hampshire. Harrisville is perhaps the best-preserved early mill village in the nation, and it has been on the National Register of Historic Places since 1971. Recently, the historic significance of the adjacent farms on Beech Hill to the south has been recognized. A rural district of about 1400 acres has been determined eligible and nominated for the National Register of Historic Places. Its listing will recognize the historical importance of the relationship between pre-commercial agriculture and the early Industrial Revolution. This is the level of local social and economic

relationships--face to face interactions of farmers and manufacturers--where modern capital enterprise began. It is the context in which farmsteads can be seen as part of a community.

The extraordinary preservation of the Harrisville mill village is due in part to a conscious effort to resist the commercial exploitation of its historic sites. Not only have buildings been recycled, they have been developed for re-use according to their original purpose. The major accomplishment has been to attract the Filtrine Manufacturing Company into the former buildings of the Cheshire Mills woolens company. By adding the rural district, the integrity of the community will be maintained as it exists now as well as in its historical sense.

Though there are farms still operating in the Harrisville Rural District, the excellent preservation of agricultural sites is archaeological. Inventory surveys and test excavations have shown that the regenerated forest on Beech Hill is the result of farm abandonment. There are six standing farmhouses, five of which date from the late 18th century. The seven additional farmsites consist of late 18th century foundations and associated features. Interestingly, four of the standing homes exhibit the connected-farmhouse architecture well-known to New England, while none of the remnant foundations show clear evidence of connectedness.

The major agricultural settlement of Harrisville occurred between 1762 and about 1815. Like many other townships in upland New Hampshire, the farming and manufacturing economies flourished together until the Civil War. Afterward, the textile industry became pre-eminent, and by the mid-1880s farmland was being sold to develop recreational property. Within the rural district, the Sky Field complex includes a summer home representative of the seasonal-resident economy that has continued to the present day.

The preservation of Harrisville is a rare effort which recognizes the interdependence of people in a rural community. It shows that the roles of farmers were fundamentally interactive. Over time the nature of those interactions changed, and the preservation of a laboratory in which to study those changes is critical. The archaeological analysis of landuse patterns may be the only way in which the different kinds of information about rural life can be gathered together to interpret community history. It is only through an understanding of how farm families transformed the landscape by their agricultural strategies that documentary and oral history evidence on production and social relations can be placed in context.

Many new kinds of landscape analyses have been recently utilized by archaeologists, including measurement of soil phosphates and comparison of grass phytoliths. Perhaps the most encouraging for landuse studies in New Hampshire, and especially applicable in the context of community patterns such as the Harrisville Rural District, is the analysis of forest regeneration on abandoned agricultural lands. There are at least two major methodological approaches to this problem, and they have both been the subject of projects in the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest and the White Mountain National Forest. The Society for the Preservation of New Hampshire Forests and the school of forestry at Yale University have played significant roles in such studies. Since much of what is now mixed hardwood forest in New Hampshire was once agricultural land, an understanding of forest regeneration is important, especially for determining how it is influenced by specific agricultural practices. Its use for understanding the history of community patterns is particularly valuable in Harrisville since the historically transformed landscape has been preserved in context with the farmsteads and mill village.

The third major effort is the Hill Farm Project of the White Mountain National Forest. This is a study of the regional agricultural economy of 19th century farms located at the highest elevations in the Northeast. The archaeological sample consists of 130 sites that were part of twenty clusters of farmsteads. The clusters of farmsteads are seen as the basic social unit by which pre-commercial agriculture was accomplished. By analysis of the changes in landuse patterns, evidence for cooperative efforts in farming strategies contradicts the standard notions of

self-sufficiency and subsistence agriculture on small farms.

The clusters of farms illustrate the variety of relationships that rural communities held with the regional economy. The regional context is thus one in which communities are patterned in systematic ways, and the relationships between social groups are varied but interdependent. It was primarily through this context that interactions with the general American economy were filtered. Throughout the region there were many kinds of opportunities for economic activity.

Though it was by no means homogeneous, agriculture was the most generalized feature of the regional economy. In each cluster, farming strategies frequently revolved around diversified production for local consumption. Yet, each cluster maintained specific relationships with other types of local production. Cash crops were dependent upon localized efforts to make use of them. Farmers located near starch factories, for instance, tended to grow a lot of potatoes. Farmers capable of raising livestock tended to attract meat and leather industries, especially where there were significant waterpower resources. The sawmills and logging industries in one part of the region, often based on available labor from the farms, supported the woodturning, carriage-making, and joiners of another part. The larger complexes of industrial activity required local production of grains and dairy goods to feed their wage-earning population. The clusters of farmsteads were part of a network of mutually dependent enterprises which in general exhibited qualities of small scale, diversification, and face-to-face interaction.

Comparison of the farmstead clusters has drawn on documentary and geographical data as well as archaeological evidence. Though the topography of hill farms presented clear limitations for agriculture, its very complexity ensured that farmers had access to site-specific acreage capable of supporting a wide range of products. Since pre-commercial farming methods were both land- and labor-intensive, the standard 100-acre lots were normally sufficient for long-term agricultural use. Census evidence on production confirms a pattern of diversified exploitation on acreage suited to high yield-per-unit of labor input. These farms were the result of strategies typically based on production of no less than five kinds of livestock, ten kinds of cultigens, and some kind of homemade manufactures. As late as 1870, national statistics demonstrated that New Hampshire soils yielded as much or more wheat per acre than those of the Midwest grain belt.

The regional context of the Hill Farm Project puts the economic factors of 19th century agriculture into a proper cultural perspective. In the pre-commercial system, small-scale diversified farming was the rational production method in a society where social interaction was a fundamental part of economic exchange. As people moved toward more frequent commercial cash transactions, the patterns of social and economic exchange shifted. By the late 19th century, hill farms that were efficient diversified producers became victims of the national trend toward monoculture based on long-range marketing systems.

This phenomenon has been abstracted into our rural myths of self-sufficiency and subsistence on the family farm. We have downplayed the elements of cooperative labor and highly integrated local community in favor of private enterprise and technological change. This duality supports our cultural identity which reveres individualism, independence, and material progress while simultaneously subordinating our agricultural past to the industrial present.

Finally, there are many kinds of projects concerned with New Hampshire agricultural history, but among the most important allies to archaeologists' material culture studies have been those of cultural geographers. At the University of New Hampshire, William Wallace has conducted work on settlement patterns and the land survey system. He has shown how speculation by township proprietors prompted the division of land titles into uniform lots. Thus, the first limitations placed on pioneering settlers had little to do with the ecological potential of their prospective farms. These results also demonstrate the significance of cultural factors in the history of agricultural

economy.

Culture is not an easy concept to use for analytical insight. The three levels of farm contexts presented here illustrate how dramatically perceptions can change as one shifts to gain a "better" view of rural culture history. The social sciences will continue to address problems of cultural context, however, because explanations for human behavior are most satisfying when the widest range of significant influences has been accounted for. Archaeologists have already benefitted from the use of the culture concept by others. We are obligated to respond by serving as the major interpreters of this anthropological concept, whether one's own approach is inductive, deductive, or simply intuitive.

Historical archaeology is at a crossroads. At no time has so much public interest and funding been available to support this part of social science. This alone makes our anthropological interpretation of culture history a unique opportunity. If we don't explain culture, someone else will.



## Institute for New Hampshire Studies

Plymouth State College • PLYMOUTH, N.H. 03264

Attachment  
"F"

26 July 1985

Executive Director  
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
The Old Post Office Building  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20004

Attn: Don L. King, Chief Eastern Division

Reference: Route 101 Harrisville-Dublin Hearings of July 31, 1985

Dear Sir:

I am submitting this letter for use in the determination of the by-pass route for N.H. Route 101 around Dublin village. In my professional capacity as a historian at Plymouth State College with a speciality in New Hampshire history, I have watched closely the evolution of the by-pass controversy during the past several years.

As I understand the current status of the matter, the issue centers on whether the by-pass should utilize the Town Line-South route or one of the routes through Dublin (Routes F or G or Revised Reconstruction). After reading Commissioner John T. Flanders letter of 17 June 1985 to Commissioner John P. Flanders, I support strongly his conclusions regarding the impact of either Town Line-North or Town Line-South on the Historic Harrisville District (HHD) and the Harrisville Rural District (HRD).

As I stated in my letter of 27 January 1982 to Barbara McMillan concerning the creation of the HRD, this district has special distinction because of its relationship to the HHD where industry developed and thrived throughout many decades. Other historians and archeologists concurred and we all indicated its research potential and overall uniqueness.

Nothing since 1982 has altered or revised my conclusions. To jeopardize this district, now on the National Register, would be an incalculable disservice to researchers and scholars and to the whole National Register concept. Because of the rapid growth in the southern counties of the state and the resultant loss of many historical sites related to agriculture and industry, the special nature of the two Harrisville districts should be preserved, especially given the favorable assessments by Commissioner Flanders regarding the routes through Dublin (F, G, and Revised Reconstruction).

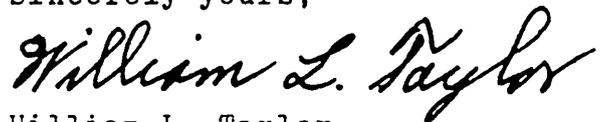
W.L. Taylor letter  
Route 101 Hearings 7/31/85

-2-

Archeologists as well as historians are recognizing that their research capabilities are improving each decade and as more research is completed, we are able to analyze data far more comprehensively and perceptively. Thus, the HRD has all the potential of a site in which many ideas and theories about farming in the 18th and 19th centuries can be tested and/or where historical and archeological research can be conducted over many years. Such research is not merely restricted to building sites, but also includes matters like field patterns, land use, tree cover, and wall construction. To lose some of this could be looked upon in a decade or two as a tragic blunder.

For these reasons I urge you to recommend that the Dublin routes (several of which are shorter and would have less overall impact on the area) be utilized for the Route 101 by-pass. I believe this will benefit the Harrisville Rural District and the Historic Harrisville District in ways we cannot yet comprehend as well as have minimal impact on the communities in the Town of Dublin.

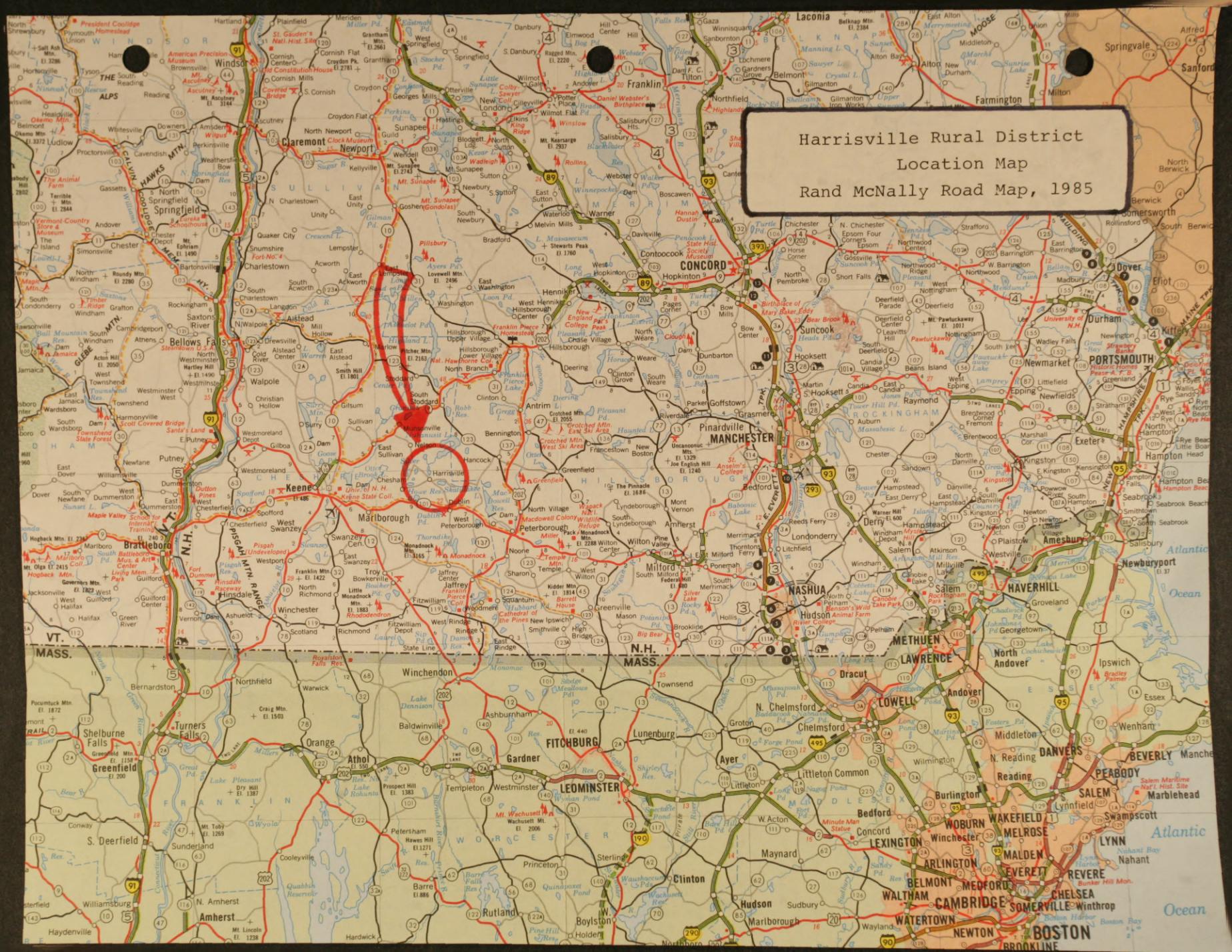
Sincerely yours,

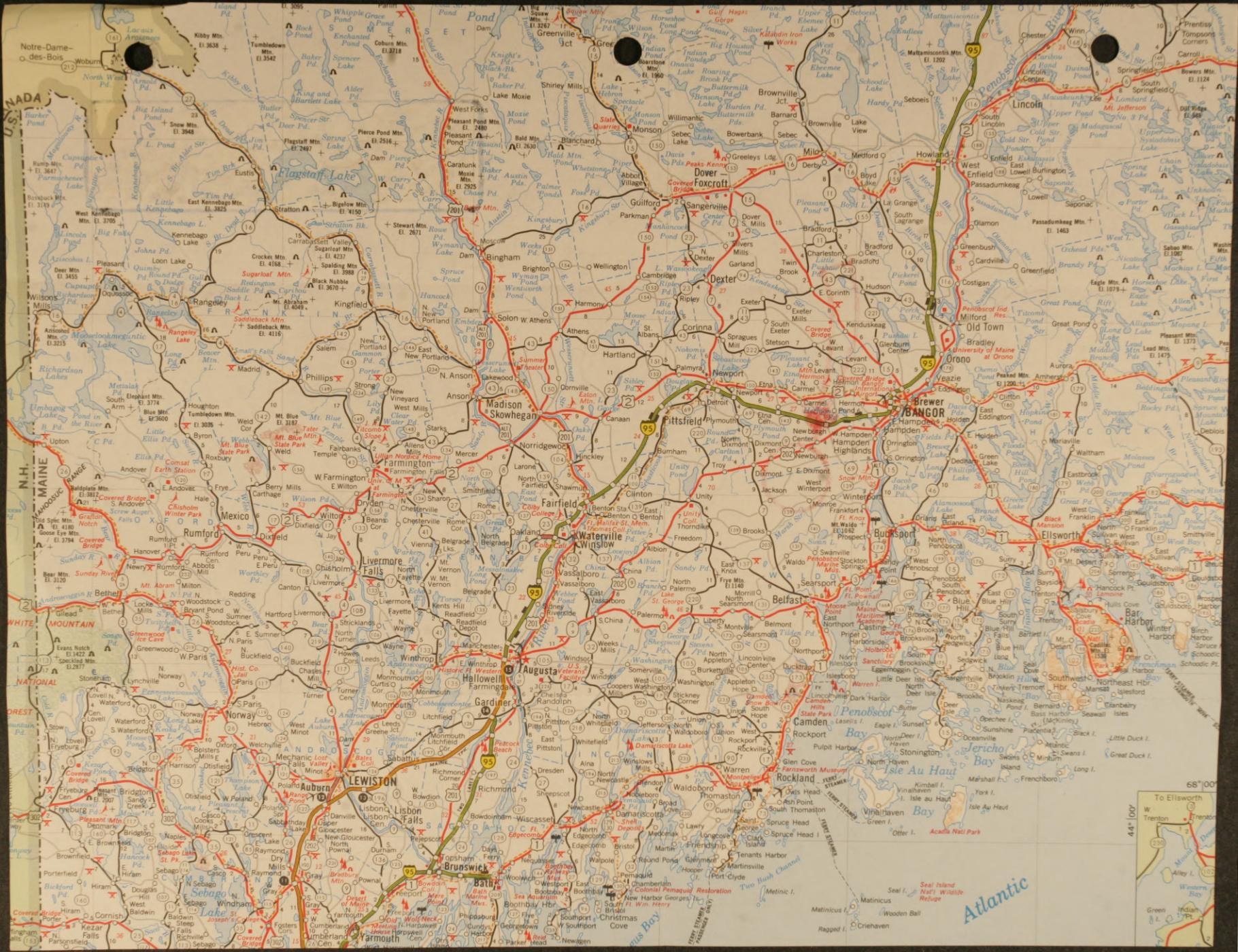


William L. Taylor  
Professor of History  
Director, I.N.H.S.

cc: S. Conway

Harrisville Rural District  
Location Map  
Rand McNally Road Map, 1985

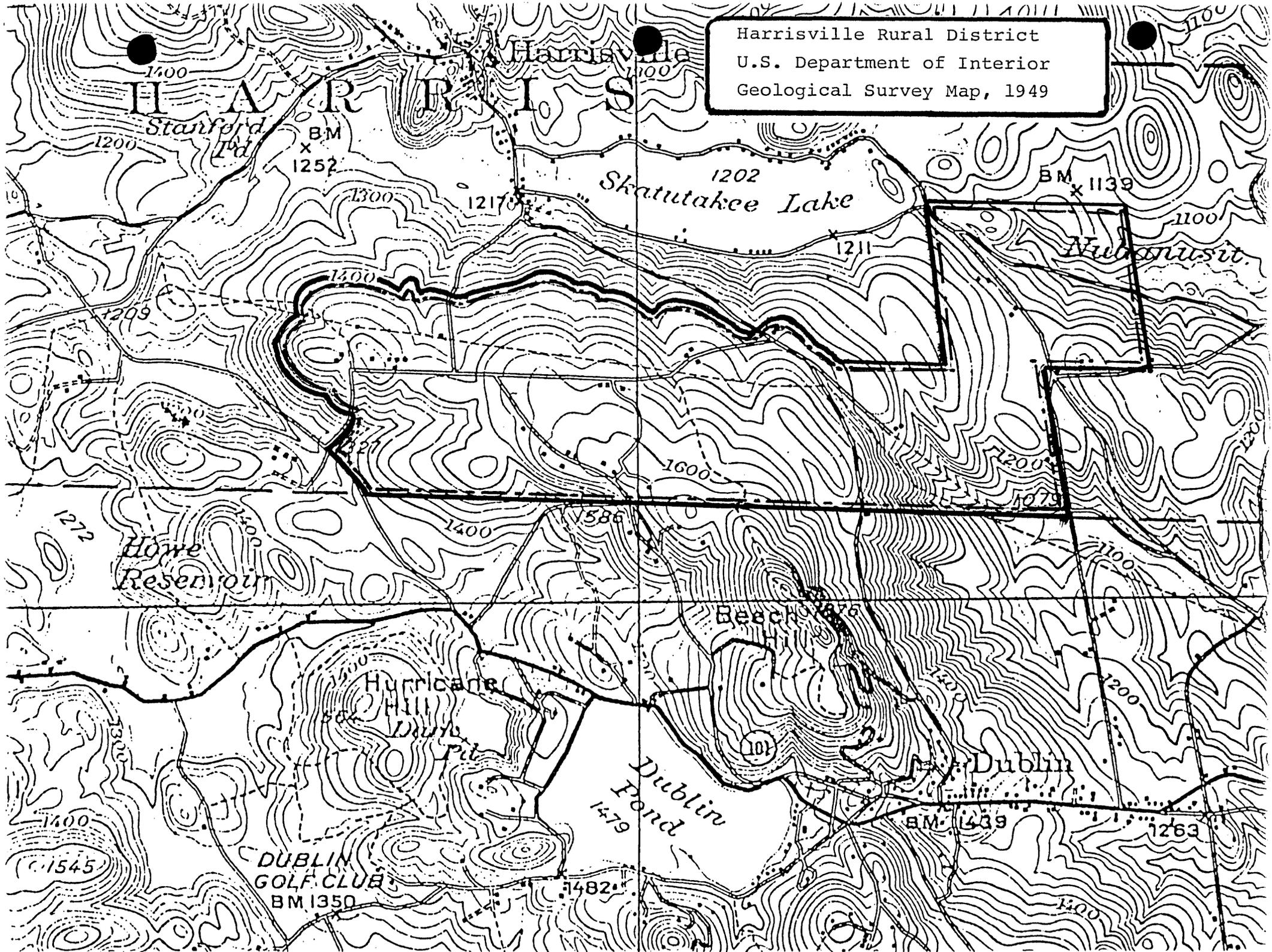




Harrisville Rural  
DISTRICT



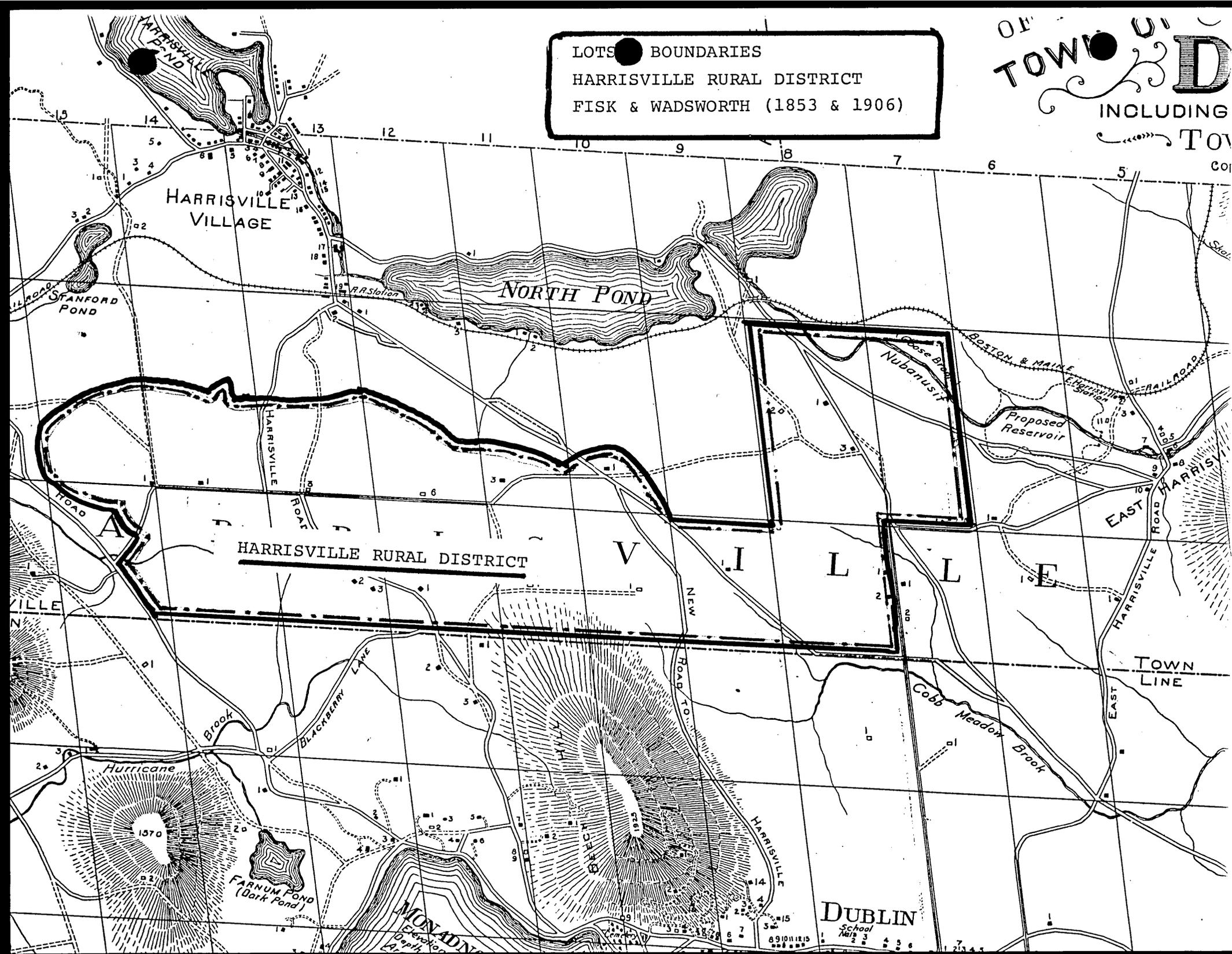
Harrisville Rural District  
U.S. Department of Interior  
Geological Survey Map, 1949





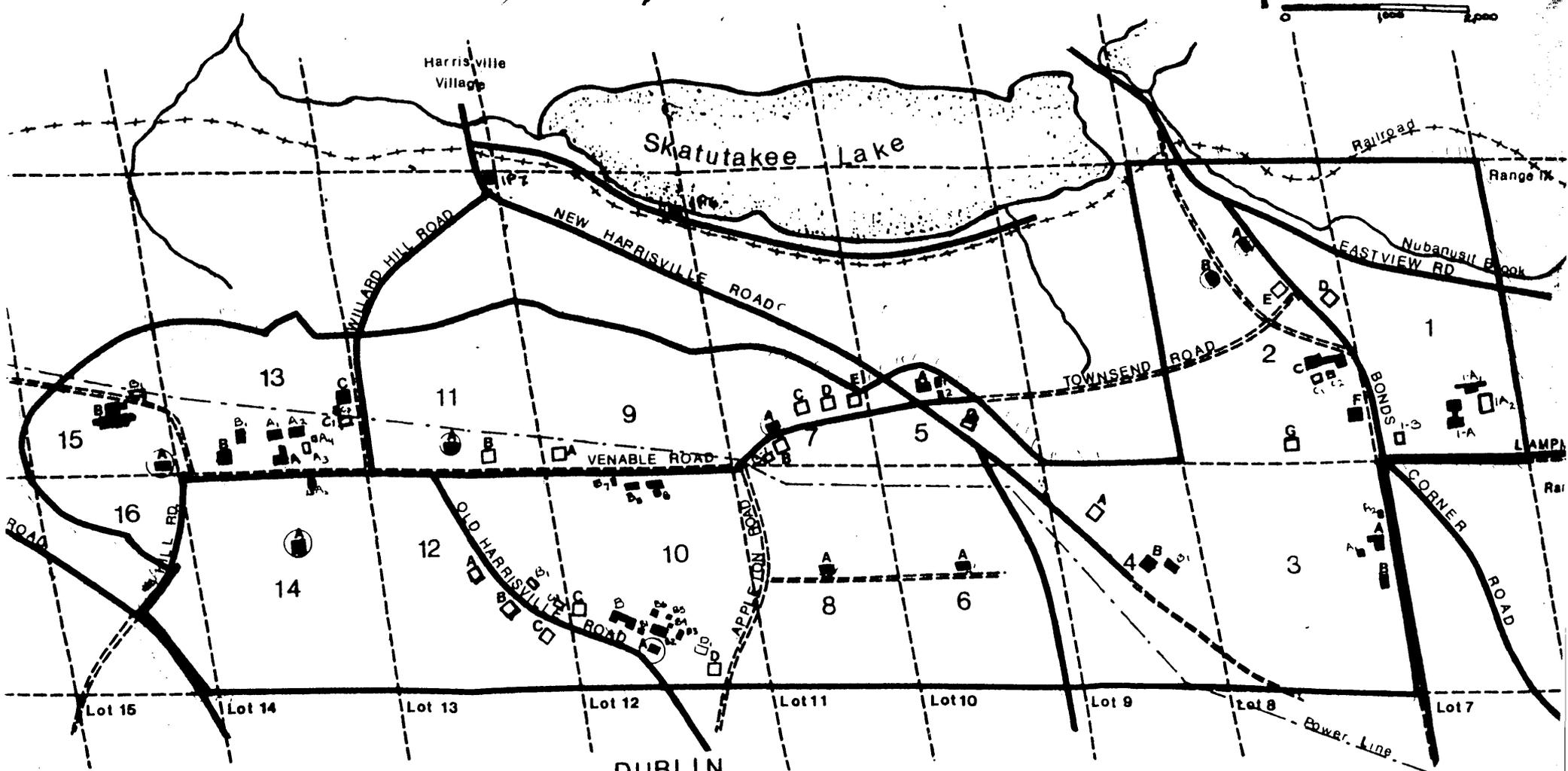
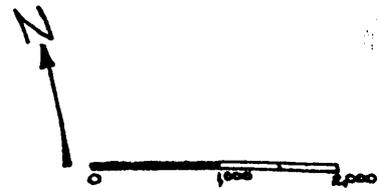
LOTS ● BOUNDARIES  
 HARRISVILLE RURAL DISTRICT  
 FISK & WADSWORTH (1853 & 1906)

OF  
 TOWN OF DUBLIN  
 INCLUDING  
 TO



# HARRISVILLE RURAL DISTRICT

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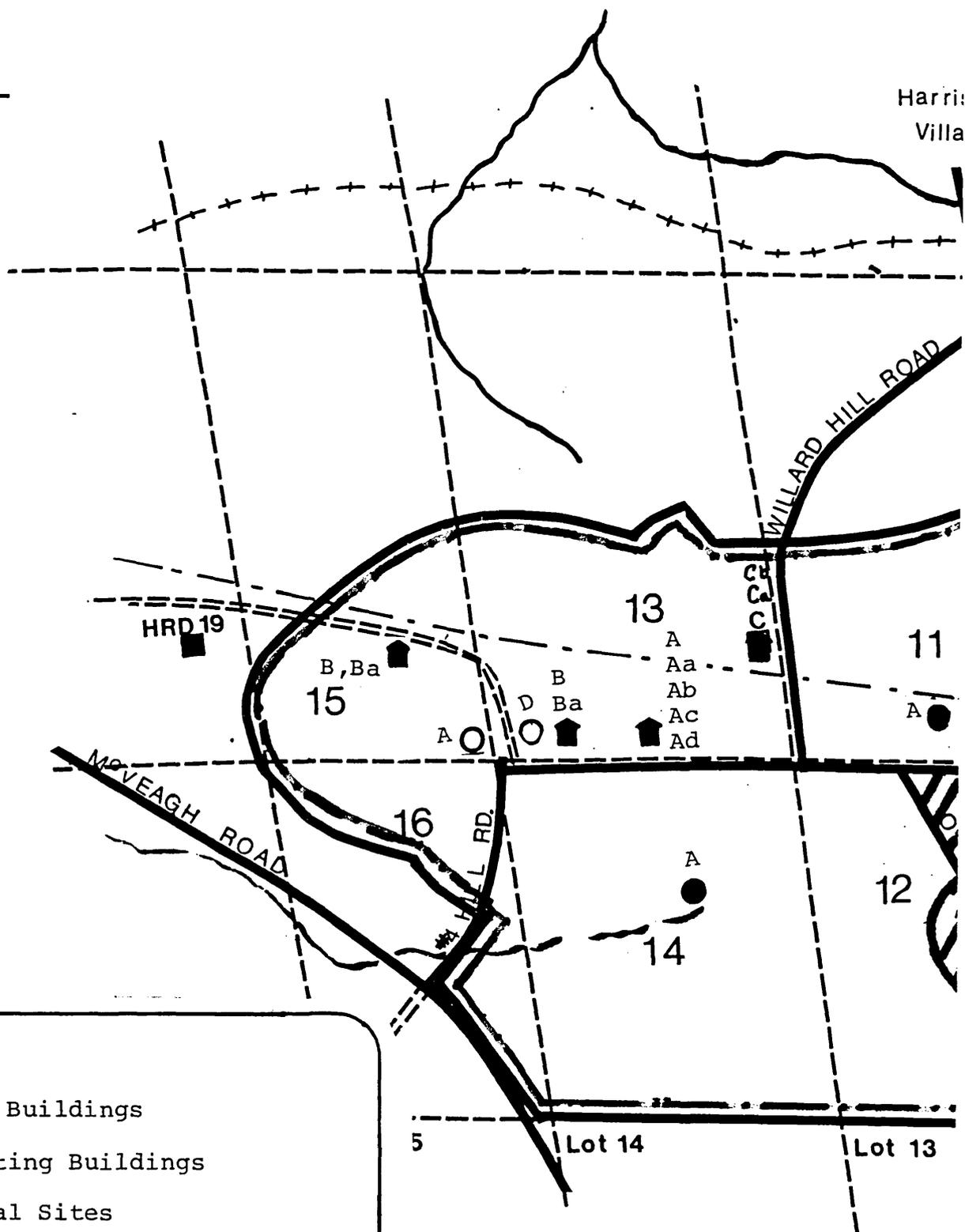


■ CONFORMING

DUBLIN

# HARRIS

1" = 1000'

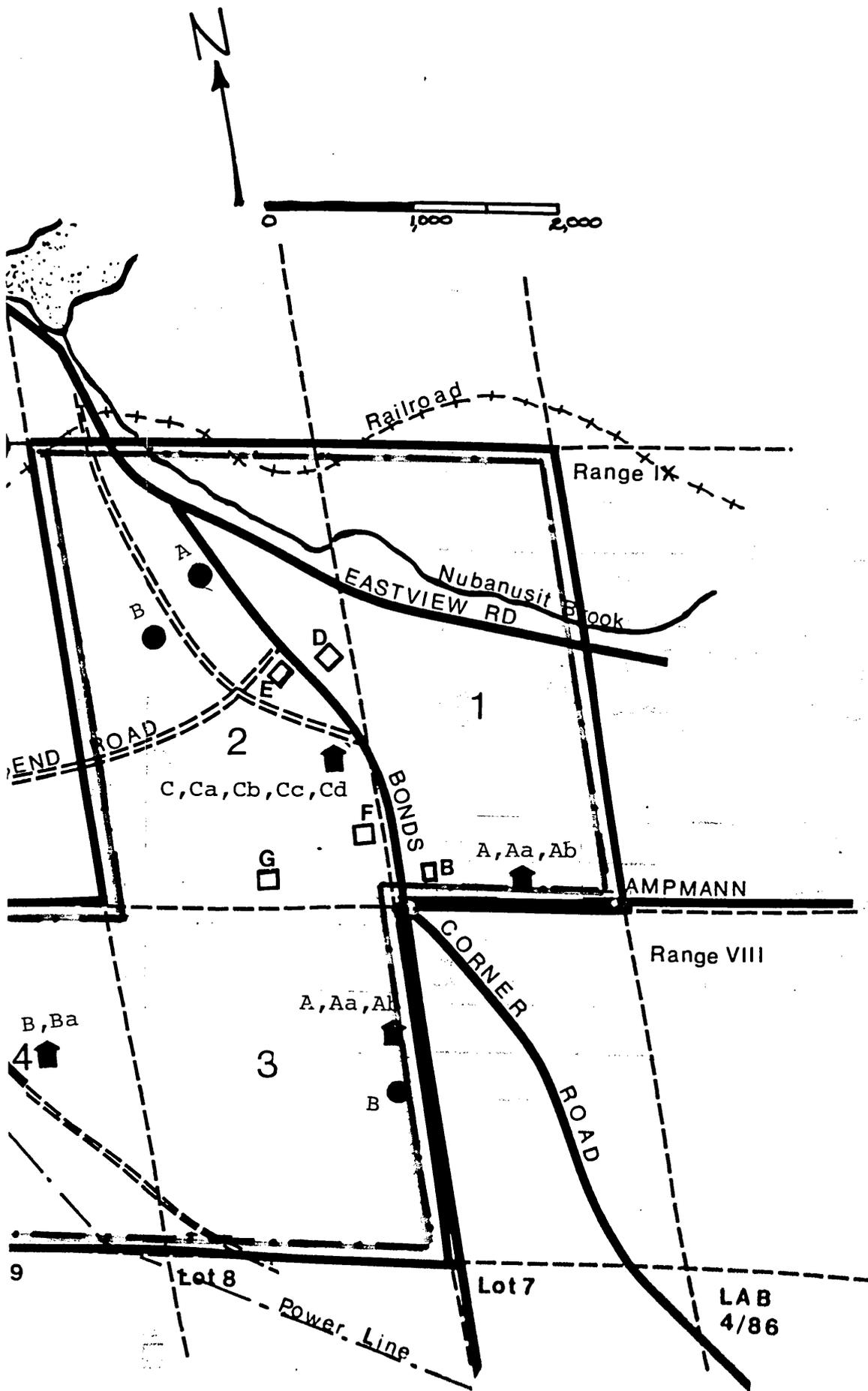


### Key

-  Contributing Buildings
-  Non-Contributing Buildings
-  Archaeological Sites
-  Un-Evaluated Archaeological Sites

**BEECH HILL SUMMER DISTRICT OVERLAY**





United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



265  
4

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Harrisville MRA  
State Cheshire County, NEW HAMPSHIRE

~~Substantive Review~~ *over*

Patrick Andrus 1/14/88

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Beech Hill Summer Home ✓  
District

~~Substantive Review~~ *for* Keeper

Patrick Ward Andrus 1/14/88

Attest

Betty L. Savage 1/14/88

2. Chesham Village District

~~Entered in the National Register~~ Keeper

Shelton Byers 1/24/88

Attest

3. Eaton, Moses, Jr., ✓  
House

~~Substantive Review~~ *for* Keeper

Patrick Andrus 1/14/88

Attest

Betty L. Savage 1/14/88

4. Gilchrest Homestead ✓

~~Substantive Review~~ *for* Keeper

Patrick Andrus 1/14/88

Attest

Betty L. Savage 1/14/88

5. Glenchrest ✓

~~Substantive Review~~ *for* Keeper

Patrick Andrus 1/14/88

Attest

Betty L. Savage 1/14/88

6. Harrisville Rural District

~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

J. Rogers 2-18-87

Attest

7. Pottersville District

~~Entered in the National Register~~ Keeper

Shelton Byers 1/24/88

Attest

8. Silver Lake District

~~Entered in the National Register~~ Keeper

Shelton Byers 1/24/88

Attest

9. Stationmaster's House ✓

~~Substantive Review~~ *for* Keeper

Patrick Andrus 1/14/88

Attest

Betty L. Savage 1/14/88

10. Townsend, Jabez, House ✓

~~Substantive Review~~ *for* Keeper

Patrick Andrus 1/14/88

Attest

Betty L. Savage 1/14/88

- 50  
revised